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## Banners banned at Olympics

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### Opening rehearsal lights up the night

A full rehearsal for the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games was held at the National Stadium, or Bird's Nest, Wednesday night.

As many as 17,000 actors participated in the rehearsal and officials said two more rehearsals are scheduled.

Photo by Jeffson Ma

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# Olympic Village court gives ear to foreign disputes

By Zhang Dongya

The Olympic Games Village Court, the country's first people's court bearing the Olympic name, opened in Chaoyang District Wednesday. It is not named for the Games, but for the Olympic Village location.

During the Games, all cases related to the Games in the nine districts and counties in east of Beijing, including Chaoyang, Dongcheng, Chongwen and Fengtai, will be heard in the court.

The court will mainly hear

civil cases, especially those related to foreign nationals, such as personal injury, property damage and Olympic-related labor disputes, tourism, accommodations, shopping, transport, dining and entertainment.

As the first court for foreign affairs, all guides and signs are posted in both Chinese and English.

There are seven Games venues under the court's jurisdiction, including the Bird's Nest, the Water Cube, the Olympic Green and the Olympic Village. It

will be crowded by athletes, tourists and spectators in August.

The new court is equipped with 11 courtrooms – seven small, three middle sized and one large room – which can seat about 250 people.

A courtroom with a 27-seat gallery was set up for foreign cases, and it is equipped with a three-track simultaneous interpretation system.

Also, it set up an accessible courtroom for the disabled, which was also the first among the nationwide court system.

Moreover, advanced security check machines and supervision systems were equipped to ensure a 24-hour monitoring.

Except for cases related to state secrets, all proceedings will be heard in the open, Qian Yixin, the chief judge, said.

Its new location is on Kehui Xi Lu, facing the Badaling Expressway to the west. The courthouse can be reached by buses 305, 307, 315, 328, 379, 407, 510, 618, 625, 670, 839, 909 and 914 at the Shuangquanbu stop.

## Rain during Olympic opening remains a toss up

By Han Manman

Thunderstorms, high temperatures and muggy skies pose a threat to the Beijing Olympics, and the chance of rain during the opening ceremony is as high as 41 percent.

Bad weather could still spoil a few events during the 17-day Games, Chen Zhenlin, deputy director of CMAs forecasting service, said Tuesday.

However, meteorology officials said they are fully prepared for unfavorable weather conditions and may turn to weather control technology.

"Thunderstorms, heavy rain, high temperatures, muggy skies and hailstorms could be a problem," said Chen, who is also director of the Olympic Weather Service Center.

For extreme weather, Chen said the meteorology bureau will forecast several hours in advance. Weather experts from former Olympic host countries, such as the US, Canada, Japan and Australia, will be in China in August to share their expertise and technology, Chen said.

An analysis of weather data from 1975 to 2007 from the Haidian District observatory, the closest to the "Bird's Nest" where the opening ceremony will be held, shows the chance of rain in the Bird's Nest area is 41 percent, Qiao Lin, chief forecaster

of China Meteorological Administration (CMA), said Tuesday, adding that the city weather statistics from 1951 to 2007 show a 47 percent chance of drizzle in the downtown on August 8.

Meteorologists began to prepare for artificial weather modification in 2003, especially modifications which would reduce rainfall, but said the technology remains limited, Qiao said.

"Artificial weather modification could be useful when a drizzle occurs," he said. "But in case of a heavy rainfall, no one can help."

Qiao said official weather information for the opening day of the Beijing Olympics would not be available until August 1, a week before the Games.

To meet the needs of the International Olympic Committee, meteorological departments will provide weather forecasts for each of the 31 Olympic stadiums in Beijing three days before events take place.

The weather forecasts will be updated every one to three hours within those 72 hours, and the latest report will be published on TV, telephone hotlines and the Internet.

Weather conditions of Olympic venues outside Beijing will also be monitored, though Chen did not specify whether the forecast frequency would be in step with Beijing's.

## Militia called in for Games



By Zhang Dongya

Thousands of militia began assisting police with keeping order on the streets Tuesday. The militia were dressed in light-blue shirts with arm bands saying "Capital Militia." They are required to be on duty by all overpasses and underpasses throughout the city as part of the "Three Protective Lines" of Olympic safety.

## Hour shift won't affect CBD workers

By Han Manman

The new working hour policy has had little impact on foreign enterprises in the CBD area.

According to a government notice issued Monday, working hours in Beijing are supposed to change from this Sunday for the next two months in a bid to ease morning traffic pressure by staggering office openings and to reduce pollution during the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The notice said working hours for companies will be set from 9 am to 5 pm, public institutions will begin work at 9:30 am, one hour later than normal.

Shopping malls will open no earlier than 10 am and stay open longer, until 10 pm or later. Schools, administrative bodies and essential service sectors are exempt from the changes.

The government also encourages people to work online from home, if possible, to avoid commuting and adapt to flexible working hours for government bodies and companies.

Many foreign enterprises in the CBD said the new policy has no impact on them as they already work from 9 am to 5 pm. Wei Yue, from IBM China, said he has not yet received any company notice

about the change. "I always leave home at 8 am and arrive at 9 am, and I will just continue my normal routine," Wei said.

However, Xie Lin, a worker in a French company, said she decided to leave home an hour before normal. Xie said her company started work from 9:30 and the traffic during that period is light. "But from next Monday, there will be more people on the road at the same time as me," Xie said. "To guarantee a seat, I need to get up an hour earlier."

The municipal government has announced a string of temporary measures to control traf-

fic and air pollution before the games start August 8.

Beijing, home to 3 million vehicles, is urging residents to turn to public transportation before the Olympics arrive.

From July 20, cars with odd and even number plates will be required to drive on alternating days.

Starting from the same day, the city will add 34 routes to its public transport network to facilitate increased passenger flows.

The opening of several new subway lines and more than 60,000 cabs may also help meet the transport demand from spectators, athletes, reporters and travelers.

## IOC bans banners from Olympic venues

By He Jianwei

Spirit banners, including those with inscriptions like "Go China," will not be allowed in Olympic venues, as the banners violate Olympic principles of fairness, an official from the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Games of the XXIX Olympiad (BOCOG) said Monday.

BOCOG issued the rules in compliance with International Olympic Committee requirements and common practice at previous Olympic Games. They will take effect on August 1 and last until the end of the Paralympic games on September 17.

The rule is similar to that of the Sydney and Athens Olympic Games, placing caution on articles accompanying spectators and spectator behavior at the Olympic venues, Zhang Zhenliang, vice-director of the Volunteer Department of BOCOG and chief of the Spectator Call Center for the Beijing Olympics, said.

Spectators are not allowed to carry into the venues items like food and drink, fragile containers, unauthorized video cameras, knives, musical instruments, carry-on bags, suitcases and handbags which are too big to carry to the seats, flags of countries and regions not participating either in the Olympic or Paralympic Games and other flags over two meters in length or over one meter in width, flag poles of over one meter in length, leaflets and posters.

The rule also targets inappropriate behaviors including smoking in a non-smoking area, crossing over the guardrail, using umbrellas or standing up for a long period of time in the seating area, flash photography and wearing clothes in groups with logos and designs to promote companies.

In Athens umbrellas were banned, but Chinese women use them as parasols to keep the sun off, so they will be allowed in Beijing.

"In foreign countries, people like to sunbathe, but in Beijing we prefer to avoid sunlight," Huang Keying, deputy director of spectator services division at the BOCOG, said, "So we will allow people to bring collapsible umbrellas as long as they don't put them up in the stands."

## Brief news

### SOEs under scrutiny

The Central Commission for Discipline Inspection of the Communist Party of China issued a rule Tuesday detailing penalties for offenses pertaining to the work of State-owned Enterprise (SOE) managers.

All SOE heads are banned from taking advantage of their easy access to inside information about plans for listings, refinancing moves and mergers and acquisitions, to profit themselves or those with whom they have special relationships.

### Algae plague over

The Chinese government said Tuesday it cleared away the algae that had blocked the Olympic sailing course in Qingdao after more than one million tonnes of the sludge was removed.

(By Han Manman)



# Girls' modeling dream becomes prostitution nightmare

By Huang Daohen

Local police busted an organized prostitution ring and arrested four men who forced young girls, most of them underage, into prostitution, the Haidian District procuratorate said.

The young victims were forced into working as prostitutes by their modeling agency.

The arrested suspects, Hu Weidong and Meng Zhibang, ran a modeling agency called Yuanyuan Movie and TV studio, *Beijing News* reported Monday.

The girls and young women were pushed to sign with the company, and then were threatened if they did not abide by the "unspoken rule of the modeling industry" and have sex with the two men, the report said.

The case broke when the Haidian District Public Security Bureau received a letter in late May from two 18-year-old twins Baobao and A Zi. In the letter, the twins told how they were duped by Hu and Meng and forced to work as prostitutes.

The letter began to circulate on the Internet after the girls posted it on their blog. The girls' blog and their story were soon picked up by major media outlets.

Baobao, the eldest of the twins, said they met a man named Meng by chance last summer in a fast food restaurant. Meng introduced himself as a talent scout in the entertainment business and told the girls they had the looks to make it big in entertainment.

"We were so excited about the bright future Meng described," the

girls wrote in their blog.

Meng demanded the girls have sex with him. They submitted, because they heard it is required in the modeling industry. "We are neither the daughters of government officials, nor of rich people. We are just people," they said.

To many would be actors and models, the sex-for-role swap is no secret. The only short-cut to success is through the unspoken rule, an insider who asked not to be named said.

Later, the girls were asked to

have sex with the company's more important clients. The acts were videotaped and used later to blackmail the clients.

According to the girls' blog, the company controlled hundred of girls, and each was expected to help bring in new talent.

The city plans to start a new crackdown on drugs and prostitution in October. Karaoke bars and discos will be required to install transparent partitions in private rooms and workers must not wear skimpy clothing.

## 10,000 free bikes for tourists during the Games



The Beijing tourism bureau plans to place 10,000 bikes in the city's star hotels and qualified inns. The 119 Olympic-signed hotels will be the first spots with free bikes starting Wednesday. Photo by Wang Zhenglong

## Critics suspect Singapore-bound student's story is fiction

By Annie Wei

Last weekend, media carried the story of an 18-year-old student in Wuhan, Hubei Province, who was reportedly accepted to an engineering university in Singapore after bombing the college entrance exam.

For many students, the exam is the decisive moment of their education careers.

However, public response and investigation suspect the woman or her teacher faked the story to get media exposure after one paper's investigative reporter found that five engineering schools in Singapore denied having accepted her.

Zhang Mengsu, the student, scored 445 on the college entrance exam — a score that would only grant her entrance to China's lowest-ranked colleges.

After the exam, Zhang went to a local college recruitment conference and helped one teacher set up her tent when it started raining.

The report said Zhang's move caught the attention of a nearby

teacher from Singapore, who gave her the chance to interview with his school.

Zhang reportedly introduced herself to the five interviewers in both English and Chinese. According to the report, the teachers appreciated her achievements of winning second prize in the National Robot Competition, third prize in the National Internet English Contest and first prize in the provincial letter-writing contest. The school offered her admission and a 200,000-yuan scholarship for four years.

The report also said Zhang was "socially active" in her school as the leader of the school's information office and secretary of the Youth League and literature club.

Many critics praised Zhang's well-rounded development compared to students who only care about getting a high score.

However, the Wuhan Cambridge Education Company found Zhang's story suspicious.

According to the agency, none

of the five Singaporean poly-tech universities that went to the consultative conference would accept a student who scored 480.

Shanghai-based *Jiefang Daily* said five universities denied accepting Zhang.

The first story was leaked to media by Zhang's teacher He Weixing. He said that he got a call from Zhang, who said she was admitted to a Singaporean university.

He said he trusted his student, but never saw any paperwork between Zhang and the Singaporean school.

The teacher said Zhang asked him not to leak her contact information to the media, and said she would prove her admission after the process was done in 10 days.

The education bureau of Hubei Province said Chinese students bound for Singapore did not need to demonstrate a domestic entrance score.

The local police station confirmed that Zhang acquired a passport and stated study in Singapore as her reason for applying.

## Nanjing students ensnared in pyramid scheme

By Zhang Dongya

As many as 800 students from 33 universities in Nanjing, Jiangsu Province, who have been tied up in a pyramid scheme since 2006 are now out.

Two suspects, including a college student, have been detained. The Nanjing Municipal Public Security Bureau and Administration of Industry and Commerce held a press conference to draw

attention to such schemes and block them from entering campus.

Starting in 2006, a commerce and trade company in Nanjing engaged in pyramid selling in universities. Yang Zhi (pseudonym), a college student, met Wang, the company's manager, at an Investment Information Seminar held in his college. Wang's speech convinced Yang to join in hopes of learning and improving his own ability.

They two later founded an association similar to other pyramid schemes that promised consumers or investors large profits if they recruited others to join the program. The association recruited college students, and each investor had to pay between 150 yuan and 1,000 yuan for membership.

However, the association was suspended and replaced by a commerce and trade company con-

sisting of the associations staff and structure. Yang, the first investor, became its manager and legal representative.

The former association members became company employees, but their main purpose was to advance capital rather than earn money.

New employees were required to recite and explain well-known sayings and stories to encourage themselves and ensnare others. They would be

punished if they failed to recite or explain well. Many students decided to drop out of school in order to continue their "careers."

All 834 college students involved in the scam have been pulled out. Yang Zhi, the legal representative of the company, and his manager Wang were captured. The company was fined 2 million yuan according to the country's Prohibition of Pyramid Selling.



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# Agencies to share monopoly enforcement

(Reuters) – Three government agencies will share duties to enforce China's new anti-monopoly law, *China Daily* reported on Wednesday, a move that could potentially complicate enforcement of the law.

Legal experts have expressed concern over whether the law, which was passed last year but takes effect August 1, will be implemented by an enforcement agency with sufficient expertise and clout to offer clear guidelines.

The newspaper cited unnamed sources

familiar with the issue as saying that the Ministry of Commerce, the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) and the State Administration for Industry and Commerce (SAIC) would share the duties, rather than having a single enforcement body.

The commerce ministry will deal with competition issues related to mergers and acquisitions and similar transactions, the NDRC will decide on price-related cases and the SAIC will decide on matters

related to abuse of dominant market position, the report said.

An anti-monopoly committee directly under the cabinet will coordinate among the enforcement bodies, the paper cited Huang Yong, a professor at the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing, as saying.

Enforcement could be a challenge under the arrangement, Huang said.

"The main question is: who will be in charge?" the paper quoted him as saying.

## Expert comment

By Huang Daohen

The set up of the anti-monopoly bureau will benefit all. Domestic and foreign-invested businesses will benefit from the legislation, Shi Jichun, a law professor from Renmin University who drafted the law, said.

"The primary basis for anti-monopoly legislation is to ensure that market

competition does not stall," Shi said.

All enterprises will be left in difficult situations once one group corners the market, Shi said.

"It is a natural result of China's progress in building its market economy," he said, adding that there is no need for the foreign-invested companies to panic.

However, Shi said monopolies

remain hard nuts to crack, and there is a long and bumpy way ahead for this campaign.

Shi said the country's monopolies were historic in nature. Except for sectors concerning national security, natural resources and public services, all the other monopolized industries and departments should be open to competition.

## No China made US flag



The US Congress declared Monday that any flag flown on federal property must be made in the US.

CFP Photo

(AP) – The American flag has many labels: Stars and stripes, Old Glory, and sometimes, made in China.

Congress cannot halt the flow of Chinese-made flags, but lawmakers can try to control where they are flown. The House declared Monday that any flag flown on federal property must be made in the US.

"It's not a major problem facing the nation," Bob Filner, a democrat representative from California, admitted. "But it's an irritant."

Chinese-made flags seemed to pop up everywhere after the September 11, 2001, attacks. People rushed to broadcast their patriotism by buying American flags, and US manufacturers could not keep up with demand.

Foreign imports of American flags, worth around \$1 million annually at the time, surged to nearly \$52 million in the weeks that followed.

As demand subsided, lawmakers took action, requiring the Defense Department to buy American-made textiles and the

Veterans Affairs Department to use American-made flags for burials.

In the city where Congress meets, only US-made flags fly over the nation's Capitol.

Still, more than 8,000 other federal buildings – courthouses, post offices, border stations and office buildings – are under no such obligation.

Filner, chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, wants to force the government to buy only American-made flags. "But we were told that this mandatory stuff runs into trade agreements," the eight-term congressman said.

That is because the US has gone to great pains to hammer out trade deals with other countries and cannot impose new limits after the fact.

His solution was a nonbinding "sense of Congress" resolution that cleared the House on Monday. It does not have any teeth, he admitted, but it is a start.

In the meantime, state governments are beginning to weigh in. A new law in Minnesota says all flags sold in the state

must be made in the US, with violations subject to a fine of up to \$1,000 and jail time of up to 90 days. The industry says similar measures have cropped up in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Florida.

The country's flag makers can easily make enough flags for the government, said Michael Liberman, president of Valley Forge Flag in Wyomissing, Pennsylvania.

"That would be a very, very small part of our domestic demand; there's no problem with that," he said. "Right after September 11, the US flag industry couldn't keep up with demand. But that only occurred for probably four or five months."

It is not just the government: several retail chains have decided to buy American-made flags. Liberman's company sells flags to Ace Hardware, Target and Lowe's. But he has had trouble selling flags to some retailers.

"Others have not had a problem selling flags saying they are made in China or made in Korea," he said. "We're constantly trying to convince them there is a difference in quality and usability."

## Police warn citizens to beware Olympic scams

(Reuters) – Police in the north have warned of a series of Olympic-related scams, from people offering mobile phones capable of receiving Games coverage, to others dressing up as officials on fund-raising missions.

The scams were "becoming more numerous and diverse by the day," public security officials in Shanxi Province said in comments published in local media on Monday.

Apart from run-of-the-mill confidence tricks from people selling pirated Olympic coins, gold bricks and other merchandise, police had heard reports of offers to arrange "Olympic securities and funds" through back-door connections, the *Beijing News* said, citing the Shanxi Public Security Bureau.

One imaginative scheme, in a list of nine of the most commonly reported stings, involved a scam to sell Olympic medals supposedly missing after a warehouse blaze, and in exchange the buyers could turn them into the government for "a high price."

## 'Flying objects' banned during the Olympics

(Screen Weekly) – All schools and universities in Beijing will be prohibited from using flying objects during the Olympics as part of heightened security for the Games.

Model planes, hot-air balloons and para-gliders will be under the ban from July 20 to September 24 imposed by the Municipal Commission of Education.

Institutions and schools have been asked to keep these flying objects under safekeeping. Special personnel should be assigned to take care of flying objects collected from individual owners to prevent "unlawful elements" from carrying out sabotage or "staging political publicity," the municipal education watchdog said.

The ban came a day after the organizers issued the Olympic venue rules Tuesday that prohibit carrying of banners and flags larger than 2 meters by 1 meter, flags of non-participating members as well as sit-ins and demonstrations among others.

## Man detained in China's first sexual harassment case

(Reuters) – A Chinese man has been given five months in detention for kissing a female colleague against her will, a local newspaper said on Wednesday, the first time punishment has been meted out under a new sexual harassment law.

The man, a manager surnamed Liu, invited one of his new female employees into his office in Sichuan Province to "discuss work matters," but then told her he wanted to be her boyfriend, the *Beijing News* reported, citing a local newspaper.

When the woman turned Liu down, he turned off the lights, held her by the neck and kissed her, the report said.

"Miss Chen screamed out and fought back. Colleagues next door heard her and dialed (the police)," the newspaper said.

Liu was found guilty of "using force to act indecently towards a woman," it reported.

The sexual harassment law was passed in 2005.



# Forex regulator says 'hot money' still here

By Huang Daohen

The Chinese foreign exchange regulator took an unusual step Monday to take issue with a domestic media report, claiming the non-existence of speculative capital, or "hot money," in China.

The report by the *China Economic Weekly* stating that there is no hot money in China "doesn't represent the administration's view," the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE) said in a statement.

"SAFE has attached great importance to the supervision of cross-border capital flow in recent

years, and has actively taken measures to enhance and improve the supervision of cross-border capital flow to prevent global economic risks," the statement said.

*China Economic Weekly*, a state-operated magazine, cited an unnamed SAFE official in a report published late last month saying that no hot money exists the country.

The hot money problem came to light when the central bank released earlier this week that the country's foreign exchange reserve rose to US \$1.8 trillion last month.

The world's largest foreign exchange reserve raised worries over hot money being pushed into the country to cash in on the expected further yuan rise.

Though it is hard to calculate the exact amount of hot money circulating in the country, the general estimate has arrived at US \$500 billion. The most controversial estimates push it as high as US \$1.75 trillion, Li Youhuan, an economist with the Guangdong Academy of Social Sciences, said.

Hot money flooded the equity and property markets last year, Li

said. But that money has ended up in Chinese banks – corporate accounts in particular – after rapid decline in the equity and property markets.

Li said the government should provide liquidity to the real economy rather than mopping it up when the hot money reverses.

"Hot money could change into long-term investment if a country's economy is stable," Li said, adding that the government should improve its investment environment to encourage incoming capital to stay in the country as long as possible.

## Factory closure spreads to Yangtze Delta

By Huang Daohen

Bosses have fled factories in the Yangtze River Delta as thousands face closure, the *Shanghai Security Daily* reported Monday.

The US subprime crisis, rising costs and tighter regulations on currency are making the region less competitive than when it became a major textile producer almost two decades ago, the report said.

This year will likely mark the year manufacturers are forced to take a hit in profits, Wang Jianwei, an economy analyst in Ningbo, Zhejiang Province, said.

Most companies closing factories ran small operations, with investment less than US \$3 million each, Wang said. Some operations closed for good, some moved inland and some relocated outside China.

"It is the first time I've seen so many elements hitting us at once," Deng Jian, an owner of a textile factory in Shaoxing, Zhejiang Province, said. "Everyone is talking about whether they'll still be in business," said Zheng, a 35-year industry veteran who is now setting up a joint venture in Vietnam and scouting other locations outside China.

Similar phenomena occurred in the Pearl River Delta in Guangdong Province, where as many as 1,000 shoe factories and related suppliers have closed, Xinhua reported.

The Federation of Hong Kong Industries estimates 10 percent of the 60,000 to 70,000 Hong Kong-owned factories in the Pearl River Delta region will close this year – the highest rate of closures in 20 years.

The shift in China's light-manufacturing sector is sending ripples around the world. Factory owners are looking beyond the Yangtze and Pearl River Delta, where the cost of living, and hence, wages, has become relatively high.

Instead, manufactures turn to poorer countries with lower labor costs, which will bring new investment and assembly-line jobs to countries such as Vietnam and Bangladesh.

## Auto import growth in H1 slows down



Growth in auto imports slowed down in the first five months of this year, according to General Administration of Customs. The new import management system, which

took effect in April, denies refitted and stolen motor vehicles access to the Chinese market.

IC Photo

## Starbucks looks to China after US closures

Starbucks, the world's largest coffee-shop chain, is set to expand its China operations after announcing plans to close low-performance US stores and slash jobs.

The chain's changes will affect Starbucks' China operations positively, the Seattle-based company's Greater China President Wang Jinlong said.

"There will be more innovation, more new products and more resources, not only investment," Wang said.

US consumers are spending less on so-called affordable luxuries like gourmet coffee as they face a contracting economy and record gasoline prices, forcing Starbucks' biggest closures and job cuts in its history, the company announced July 2. It will close 600 US outlets and eliminate 12,000 jobs, slowing its domestic expansion after doubling in size in four years.

Starbucks expects to gain as



Starbucks said it plans to open another 80 outlets this year in Chinese cities including Beijing and Shanghai.

CFP Photo

affluent Chinese are drawn to gourmet coffee. There are now 100 million middle-class consumers in China, and this number may grow to 200 million by 2020, Wang said. Retail sales in China gained 21.6 percent in May, close to the fastest pace in nine years.

China, where more people drink

tea than coffee, has the potential to become the largest market outside the US for Starbucks because the nation has the world's largest with a population at 1.3 billion people, Wang said.

Starbucks has over 300 stores in China and plans to open 80 new outlets this year. (Agencies)

## Economic growth slowed in first half

(AFP) – Economic growth slowed during the first six months of this year, but still expanded at a double-digit pace, Xinhua reported on Wednesday, quoting government economists.

The slowdown was in line with government's macro control policies and the economy was still stable, Zhang Ping, minister of the National Development and Reform Commission, the top economic planning agency, was quoted as saying.

But Zhang, speaking to the International Finance News, said the country was facing a complex economic environment and there was still strong upward pressure on inflation.

The economy is forecast to have grown by 10.5 percent in the first half, the report said, quoting Zhang Liquan, a researcher at the State Council Development Research Center.

Growth in the second quarter eased to 10.4 percent from the first quarter's 10.6 percent, Zhang said.

The economy grew by 11.9 percent last year.

## Yum! sees profit in second-quarter

(Bloomberg) – Yum! Brands, the owner of the Pizza Hut, Taco Bell and KFC chains, said second-quarter profit rose 4.7 percent on higher sales in China.

Net income increased to US \$224 million from US \$214 million last year, the Louisville, Kentucky-based company said in a statement distributed Thursday by Business Wire. Sales rose 12 percent to \$2.7 billion.

## Air China to cut 60 Beijing flights a day during Games

By Huang Daohen

The country's national carrier Air China said Tuesday it would cut 60 flights a day during the Olympics as Capital International Airport scales back regular operations to focus on athletes.

The airport will reduce regular services by 7 percent to 1,250 flights a day, an Air China spokesman said.

The cuts will run from July 20 to August 31.

The reductions follow other steps the country has taken to prevent problems during the Games.

Visitor numbers to Beijing may fall in August due to tighter visa rules. The city's tourism bureau expects 400,000 to 450,000 foreign visitors during the Games.

Air China will shift capacity to other parts of China during the games, it said.



# Wenchuan, reconstruction choices



Whether to rebuild the Wenchuan county on site or build a new one caused controversy amongst public.

CFP Photo

By Zhang Dongya

Two months after the May 12 earthquake in Wenchuan, Sichuan Province, post-quake reconstruction plans are expected to be unveiled, especially for the people in the quake-hit areas. Wenchuan, the epicenter and hardest-hit area in this earthquake, must reconstruct the area on-site or build a new Wenchuan in some other location.

In News Probe, a CCTV program earlier this month, two scholars Zhang Xinbao and Yin Zhi presented their views on the reconstruction of Wenchuan.

Zhang Xinbao, researcher from the

Chinese Academy of Sciences said that Wenchuan should be reconstructed on the same spot. "This site was selected by our ancestors with their wisdom and probing, which was tested in accordance with their experience. We cannot easily dismiss the place. It's like an escape," Zhang said.

Yin Zhi, director of the Urban Planning College in Tsinghua University, supported the idea of building a new Wenchuan in another location. "Wenchuan has been badly damaged, and it will cost both money and a lot of time to clean up the ruins and rebuild a new city," Yin said.

The State Council published guidelines

on post-quake reconstruction, emphasizing house repair and building work on July 4. "Check for repairable buildings and fix them as soon as possible; scientifically choose sites, economically use land and set down reasonable quake-resistant levels for building new houses," the guidelines said.

According to the guidelines, areas suitable for living must be marked off based on scientific standards and evaluations of geological and natural resources. The government will see to the reasonable distribution of population, industry and productivity, Xinhua reported.

## Debate of the week

By Huang Daohen

### Lesbian couple locks lips on the subway

A video of a lesbian couple doing naughty things on the Shanghai Metro Line 2 topped online posts in main Web sites this week, arousing discussions over homosexual behavior in public areas.

A man calling himself sd123 secretly filmed a girl in the same car during his Monday commute. Suddenly, the girl's lesbian lover got on the train and the couple started doing some naughty things in plain view.

The man filmed it and posted it on a forum with the subject and story and said that he "risked death to film two lesbians kissing passionately."

The video quickly spread to Tianya, MOP and throughout the Chinese Internet. Most people agreed that the behavior of the two girls was inappropriate in public.

Some people were angry and criticized the couple, claiming that they were embarrassing the country by being so shameless about their homosexuality. Others, however, appealed that there should be more tolerance for homosexuals.

### Go home, Sichuaners

A Sichuan-style restaurant in Fengtai district owned by a Beichuan couple was recently spray painted with the words "Sichuan people, go home" on its gate.

The act caused a flurry of online outbursts as the restaurant once flew a flag supporting the people of Beichuan, a county centered in the devastating quake zone that claimed it would never concede in the face of disaster.

During the Wenchuan earthquake on May 12, the son of restaurant owner He Dezhi and Cheng Xingfeng was buried in the rubble of Beichuan Middle School. In late June, He and his family came to Beijing and opened a restaurant named Beichuan Chengfeng Restaurant, which means "Beichuan rising from the ashes like the phoenix."

The reason for the spray-painting incident is still unknown. Many felt it ironic that some crowned the couple as the finest example of people helping themselves to rebuild their livelihood while others wanted them to scam back home.

Nevertheless, on Wednesday, some netizens organized volunteers to spray paint other words reading, "Beijing welcomes you."



He discovered the bad graffiti on Monday.

Photo by Bruce Hao

## Comment

### Respect science and public opinion

Facing the disputes, there is a principle that should be obeyed and that is to respect science and public opinion and to make decisions according to these factors.

Regarding the science aspect to choose a new site or not depends on its geological status and how much it can be controlled. Considerable research must come before the final conclusion. Therefore, the government should carry out further investigations into Wenchuan's geological environment to get more complete and comprehensive data.

As for public opinion, the government should adopt a rational attitude.

It should make all the related information public, and offer full explanations to let victims in quake areas know the situation objectively, and then judge and choose.

— Guohua, local commentator

### Government's turn at bat

Scholars have argued at length about the reconstruction of Wenchuan, let alone the public. As for the people who suffered in the quake-hit areas, a safe and stable place to live and a job should be the top priorities now. Therefore, it is the government that should make decisions on the issue, so as to solve the problems quickly.

— Muren, commentator of the (Legal) Mirror

### Salvage swiftly, reconstruct slowly

It is a big deal to consider the post-reconstruction, for it relates to thousands of people's future. Follow logic and science and do not rush. Scholars have gathered information about earthquakes in other countries from which to learn. Make the rescue and salvage fast, but be patient with the reconstruction.

— Yin Zhi, director of the Urban Planning College in Tsinghua University

**Environmentally-friendly reconstruction**  
We should adhere to the idea of sustainable reconstruction, that is to say, to maximize use of resources and to limit the impact on the environment.

— Ye Yaoxian, chief engineer at the China Architecture Design & Research Group





Tim Lies boycotts Kung Fu Panda in front of a cinema.

Photo by Duan Wei

# No Panda, no Hollywood

By Zheng Lu

"We don't want Hollywood here. Chinese people don't need to be told what Chinese culture is by foreign movies from the other side of the earth," Tim Lies, clad in his I Love China T-shirt, said.

Several days ago, Tim Lies went to a movie theater holding a board with "Boycott Kung Fu Panda" on it and handed out some 300 leaflets in just a few minutes. The reasons for this English teacher who works in the Beijing University Health Center to be so agitated by the Hollywood blockbuster flick needs to be traced back to more than just the movie.

## Protestors on same page

Tim Lies is not the only one who protested the movie. A month ago before the Panda's debut in China, artist Zhao Bandi referred a protest to the State Administration of Radio Film and Television accusing the film of mining Chinese moviegoers' wallets after the major earthquake by stealing traditional cultural symbols.

Simultaneously, Lies wrote an article called "Hollywood Hustle" in his space to call for the Chinese people to divert their attention to the Fuwa instead of Kung Fu Panda, which he said will destroy the country by snatching its money

and imposing Hollywood values on its people.

Later his Chinese translator, Luo Ya read the news to him about Zhao Bandi and found that Zhao was doing the same thing as he. "I went to talk to him and found we think alike," Tim said.

Concerning Chinese people's criticism of Zhao, Lies said. "He is a great artist. He loves his country and the panda. But people criticized their artist and supported the ones who stole their money!" he said.

## People becoming puppets

Zhao and Lies differ slightly in their protests in that Zhao is against the panda movie while Lies is against Hollywood.

"I hate that they produced this movie, especially that it is made by DreamWorks. It is a total insult to the Chinese people," Lies said.

"Steven Spielberg owns DreamWorks and has made millions in profits from the advertising generated by the DreamWorks publicity department. We all know that he publicly denigrated China a few months ago. DreamWorks wants to dominate the market. This market is the last frontier for Hollywood hegemony. Ultimately, Hollywood will control our own market with the purpose of turn-

ing Chinese people into puppets of American propaganda," Lies said.

He said "Hollywood is brainwashing the kids with their violent movies," and that it unfairly cuts out independent filmmakers.

## Choose Chinese arts

"I knew nothing about China before I came here," said Lies, who has lived in China for four years.

After he lost his job in the economic depression caused by 911, he responded to a recruitment advertisement for English teachers in China and left the US.

"China has lots of great artists. Gu Changwei is one of them. His movie And the Spring Comes is a great movie," Tim said, "Asian and especially Chinese movie producers should come out from under the thumb of Hollywood and perform as leaders in the new world."

He said he regretted the current situation of Chinese arts where fewer kids appreciate the Peking Opera. He said Chinese youngsters follow violent movies and television shows like Prison Break.

"We must find ways to support independent filmmaking." Lies is now working on a movie about a rock 'n' roll band as producer, director and actor. "It is a real movie, a panoramic film about our lives," he said.

# Taekwondo refs rev up for the Games

By Zheng Lu

A fighter on the Chinese National Taekwondo Team sparred so Olympic referees could practice their judging skills and become more familiar with the rules.

During the Olympic Referee Refresher Course, which started Monday in Beijing Shichahai Sports School, 29 referees from 28 countries selected to officiate at the 2008 Summer Olympic Games sharpened their umpire skills through training.

The week-long World Taekwondo Federation (WTF)-organized training camp sidestepped the usual training course and promoted Chinese culture appreciation like Peking Opera and Kung Fu by suggesting it as an interlude during the course.

"Peking Opera is graceful. It helped me to learn to appreciate the diversity of music," Leon Preston, the only referee from the US, told *Beijing Today*.

Preston, 61, is the oldest Olympic referee in the camp. He works as an amateur Taekwondo coach outside his regular duties. His principal position is a professor at the Graduate School of Social Work, University of Washington. But with his love and ability for Taekwondo, he has attended many international competitions in the past as referee.

He teaches Taekwondo for free to kids whose families cannot afford it. "I have a commitment to give back to the



Leon Preston practices judging Taekwondo athletes.

Photo by Zheng Lu

society using the skills I have. Through learning Taekwondo, the kids develop skills like leadership, problem-solving and anger management. It helps to develop hope and confidence in their lives," Preston said.

The selection camp held last year which included theoretical and fitness tests like the 1,200-meter run, 50-meter sprint and standing long jump has eliminated hundreds of candidates. But it posed no threat for Leon, who has always exercised to keep in shape. "The only daunting hurdle was the weather which was so humid and hot, it challenged me to maintain my sense of focus."

The Beijing Shichahai Sports School which is home to many Chinese Olympic champions is familiar to Leon. He has spent many summer training courses here with his students. "The teachers and students are most engaging and hardworking. I appreciate their humbleness and diligent attitude. I bring my students here not only to train but also to enjoy the open-exchange of ideas. Here for me is the number one place in the world to train athletes."

Referees said they were confident about the Beijing Olympic Games as the training course has reiterated the theme "Transparent. Fair. Impartial."

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# Ladsous says France wants arms embargo ended

By Han Manman

France will push for the European Union (EU) to lift its long-running arms embargo on China during its half-year rotation into the EU presidency, which started July 1, ambassador Herve Ladsous said at a press conference in Beijing Monday.

## Lifting the embargo

Ladsous said the arms embargo on China should be lifted to match the intimate relations between the EU and China, though it "was hard for the 27 European countries to reach a consensus in such a short time." He said France would promote lifting the embargo during and after its term as president.

"For my country, it is clear that the embargo is obsolete, and that it does not fit the goal of building the strategic partnership between China and Europe and must

be removed one day," the ambassador said.

The top-level European Council had put forth a timetable in December 2004 to lift the arms embargo, but failed to implement it due to a lack of consensus.

## Sarkozy's visit

French President Sarkozy assured Chinese President Hu Jintao at the G8 summit last week that he would attend the ceremony on August 8.

The ambassador said the president's attendance will be the first time a European president who was also acting president of the EU attended an Olympic Games. It remains unconfirmed who will accompany Sarkozy to the Olympics, and the president's schedule while in China has not been made public, the ambassador said.

Ladsous will also attend the opening ceremony. He said he is more interested

in the swimming and modern pentathlon events, but the events he can attend will depend on the official French delegation.

## Dreams of gold

Ladsous said France's Olympic delegation will comprise 500 people, including 309 athletes.

France has traditionally been strong in sailing, equestrian events, judo, the pentathlon, swimming, fencing, canoeing and kayaking. The flag bearer of the French delegation will be Tony Estanguet, who won two kayak gold medals in Athens in 2004 and arrived in Beijing last month.

Another 200 people will attend the Paralympics, including around 80 athletes. "We're hoping for the best," the ambassador said, but quoted a French philosopher who said there is always "glorious uncertainty in sport."

## UN wants int'l assistance in Wenchuan reconstruction

By Huang Daohen

The United Nations (UN) on Wednesday launched an appeal worth US \$33.5 million as early recovery assistance to victims of the devastating Wenchuan earthquake on May 12.

The appeal focuses on nine sectors that will address the needs of survivors who have received basic assistance, but who will require more comprehensive aid in the following months. Sectors include livelihood, shelter, water, hygiene and sanitation, according to sources with the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator.

"It is the hope of the United Nations and the international community that China will quickly recover from this enormous tragedy, and through this appeal we extend all our support and assistance," Khalid Malik, UN resident coordinator in China, said at Wednesday's press conference.

Malik said the UN would present this appeal to the international community and hoped that governments, foundations and the private sector would partner with the UN on the initiative.

Following the early recovery assistance provided through this appeal, the UN is planning a long-term reconstruction program with government counterparts, a spokesman for the UN China coordinator office said.

Monetary assistance aside, the UN also helped the quake-hit regions with its considerable experience in disaster relief, recovery and reconstruction.

On Tuesday, the UN concluded a two-day international workshop on post-disaster reconstruction. The meeting brought together leading experts from around the world to share their experiences and lessons in recovering from disasters in their own countries.

Experts said the most urgent thing is to help people rebuild their livelihood and restore normalcy.

"That's going to be very difficult. It's easy enough to build buildings, but to restore the livelihoods of rural communities is going to be very challenging," John Leigh, a human development adviser from the UK government, said.

Government statistics show that the May 12 quake killed nearly 70,000 people, injured hundreds of thousands and left over 5 million homeless. Reconstruction could take as long as three years.

## Sino, Indian teams go green



Agastya Muthanna (second from left) and his friends playing education games with visiting children.

Photo provided by the British Council of China

By Jackie Zhang

Teenagers are stigmatized as being absorbed in online games and pop culture, and are less attentive to the world around them. But Young Climate Change Awareness Ambassadors, a program organized by British Council (BC) of China, shows that teens are aware of their responsibility and are doing their best to contribute to society.

Starting this week, 33 teenagers selected by the British Council as young climate change awareness ambassadors, including four boys from India, started their two-week green journey by train from Beijing. They will visit organizations, institutions and projects in Beijing, Shanghai, Chongqing, Guangzhou and Hong Kong.

The teens were selected from school teams shortlisted to participate in the BC's 2008 Climate Cool Green Your School Competition. The four Indian boys were selected

by the BC of India in the same project.

The first stop of the green journey was the Beijing Planetarium. All the 33 young people explained and publicized climate change and environmental protection knowledge by playing games with children and their parents who visited the planetarium.

The members will also visit the energy-saving building in Tsinghua University, Haishi Zoology Park in Chongqing, Landfill Likeng in Guangzhou and the first wind power station in Hong Kong.

Every member previously did a project on environmental protection or tackled climate change. Agastya Muthanna from India made considerable contributions to local protection. "I can see that people are using environmental-friendly bags when they go shopping. But in India, there are no such bags. Now, we are asking more women in villages to weave

environmental-friendly bags from cloth and reuse plastic bags," Muthanna said. Before his trip to China, he met the CEO of a local trade company. "He said he would like to help me promote these bags in local supermarkets, so people can use them instead of plastic."

"These young people know that tackling climate change is everybody's responsibility. They are willing to bear that responsibility. We must all do the same," Rebecca Nadin, assistant director of environment and science from BC China, said.

"One of the three themes of the Beijing Olympics is the 'Green Olympics'. This green journey is a chance to celebrate the success China has had so far in promoting sustainable and environmentally friendly projects," she said. The journey is to highlight environmental progress made in other Chinese cities.

## Printmaking Olympics come to 798

By Li Jing

As the Olympics draw near, the Amelie Gallery in 798 art district has started its own "printmaking Olympics." This printmaking exhibition, titled One World, features the work of 12 artists from China, Canada, the US and South Korea.

One World was named independently of the Olympics, yet like the games is meant to bring together nations to celebrate world culture while exchanging ideas through traditional and contemporary printmaking. "It

mirrors the idea of Olympics," Perter MacWhirter, the exhibition coordinator from the Maritime and Atlantic Printmakers Society of Canada, said.

Printmaking is a traditional art medium and has a 2,000-year history in China. Artists from around the world combine old and new in innovative ideas in the ancient practice.

It is not easy to distinguish works between the works of Western and Eastern artists because of the exchange in techniques and sensibilities. "Chinese artists are as advanced

in technique as Western counterparts and they are skilled in bringing in Western approaches to creation," Peter said.

The exhibition addresses four areas of visual content: urban culture and the conflict between benefits and stress in city life, globalization and its impact on natural resources, humanity and the isolation of the individual and natural landscapes through realism.

The exhibition will stay at Amelie until August 14 and then travel to South Korea, Canada and the US until 2010.



Peter MacWhirter (second from right)

Photo by Li Jing



# Living a green artistic lifestyle

By Annie Wei

"Eco-friendly," "Getting green" and "Be organic" are the new lifestyle slogans for Beijing's youngsters. Tonight the new one-week event Greening the Beige (GtB), will have its closing ceremony. It's a group consisting of many green-minded young people in town.

Carissa Wellton, from the US, is the main organizer who put it all together.

Last year, Wellton helped with an exhibition in the US which involved the transformation of waste like plastic bags into art. Wellton contacted local Chinese artists and volunteers to help with her project. She found that there were so many artists and performers that had strong interests in environmental protection here. That's when she decided to assemble them for an event to celebrate eco-minded thinking.

The aim of GtB is to foster community awareness regarding eco-positive and responsible city living, while at the same time connecting creative thinkers, socially responsible organizations and other supporters for a "greener" Beijing, Wellton said.

This is the second year of the Greening the Beige in Beijing. To turn a one-day event from last year into a one-week long affair, Wellton got help from a lot of friends, organizations and companies. The series of events



Carissa Wellton (left) and an event guest (middle) tasting the food prepared by Gao Yan (right), owner of the new veggie restaurant.

Photos by Cindy Pi

includes all kinds of activities, such as lectures, music, art work, charity auctions, green-related documentaries and cooking.

On the Tuesday night of the event at the Yugongyishan GtB, a green food event was held.

Gao Yan, owner of a new vegetarian restaurant called Mikki's Place, demonstrated her own recipes for creative veggie dishes. Flo Eysler, manager of Beijing's only fresh juice shop, introduced their modern healthy diet

businesses. The organic farm Agrilandia-Italian Farm brought food samples to all the visitors and some environmental organizations also demonstrated their projects at the site.

"It attracted me because I think the event is a great combination of food and being green," Li Xiao, 26, a programmer, said. Li found the event through Douban, a popular Web site among Chinese young people who enjoy reading about cre-

ative lifestyles.

Yugongyishan, Club Obiwan and The Boat are the main event venues for Greening the Beige this year. There were 500 visitors in the first three days of the event, Carissa said.

"I want to promote more green lifestyle ideas," Wellton said. She also said this event could help raise funds for an organization called Hua Dan, which has activities in many social welfare fields in China.



Vance Wagner talks about future clean transportation in China.

## Closing ceremony of Greening the Beige on Friday

The last day of the event is held at The Boat, a recently opened dance club and live music bar on Liangmahe channel, Chaoyang district

"The Bike Lane" documentary on Los Angeles' cyclist sub-culture

**When:** 9-10 pm

"Hot & Cold" - experimental found objects band

**When:** 10-10:30 pm

"More Shoes" documentary (2006, US)

Lee Kazmir's artistic journey on foot from Madrid to Kiev.

**When:** 10:30 pm - midnight

Eco-minded Art Film Shorts Buffet

**When:** Midnight -1:30 am, Also, visitors can add to the public graffiti mural and express what green means to them

**Price:** 50 yuan (general), 30 yuan (students)

## Dance festival looks for volunteers

By Annie Wei

Top dance companies from the US and China will hold a five-day festival from August 13 to 17 at The Nine Theatres and Booking-Dance is looking for volunteers.

Festival organizers said it is rare for the newest and most innovative of American dance companies to be showcased in China. The American dance companies which usually appear in China are often big ones with equally big sponsors. Some excellent mid-range dance companies find less opportunity and funding to present their work or cooperate with modern Chinese dancers.

The event will feature three to four New York companies, each performing 30 minutes of dance of varying styles from contemporary ballet and modern to dance theater and funk hip-hop.

At the same time, these performances will open and close with China's leading dance companies, including the Beijing Modern Dance Company and choreographers from the National Ballet of China.

The performance will offer audience interaction with question and answer sessions involving the artists with English and Chinese translations.

"We are looking for about 10 volunteers," Alison Freidman, the Beijing-based co-producer, said.

The basic requirement for the volunteers is to have strong language skills in both Chinese and English. "It's ideal if they are familiar with art," Alison said.

Volunteers are to help by meeting dancers at the airport, aid them during rehearsals and support them during their visit.



Dancing group Silver Brown from New York will come to the festival.

Photo provided by BookingDance

As organizers plan to open some master-classes which are free to the public, volunteers are expected to help with registration and translation. "It's a great opportunity for people who have interests in modern dance and to practice their English and Chinese skills," Alison said.

It's also a chance to go behind the scenes, to learn how to handle details and bring all the different elements together, she said.

If you are interested in being a volunteer, please contact weiyang@ynet.com. For more information about the event or booking tickets, go to bookingdance.com.

## Event

### A booktalk: Nine Lives

Since Karen Smith first completed the manuscript for her critically-acclaimed study of the lives of nine contemporary Chinese artists in 2005, a great deal has changed. With the explosion of interest in Chinese art following the equally-explosive market that emerged in spring 2006, a new, updated edition of *Nine Lives* was evidently necessary. Tonight she launches the revised updated edition, charting the dizzying changes shaping the art market from within, and without, through the eyes of her nine original subjects.

Karen Smith is one of the foremost Western commentators on Chinese contemporary art, writing for numerous worldwide publications and serving as a consultant, critic and curator for such prestigious institutions as the Tate International Council, the board of the New York Museum and the Museum of Modern Art, NY.

Where: The Bookworm, Building 4, Nan Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang District

When: July 22, 7:30 pm

Tel: 6586 9507

### Sing Chinese folk songs

Folk songs, like many other things in China, have a long and honorable history. Originally sung by laborers, these songs have been distributed to many provinces and spread all over China. There are over 30 provinces and regions. It is a good opportunity for attendees to gain knowledge about different folk songs and try singing some of them.

Where: Chinese Culture Club, Kent Center, 29 Anjialou, Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang District

When: July 24, 10-11:30 am

Cost: 80 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341

### Nathaniel Gao Quartet

Saxophonist Nathaniel Gao leads a quartet at the OT Lounge. With respect to the masters, the repertoire and with an eye on the now, Gao's set list is diverse and refreshing.

Where: OT Lounge, 6, Ritan Lu, Sunjoy Mansion 1/F, Chaoyang District

When: July 19, 10 pm

Tel: 6585 3406

### The Hit Party in Yugongyishan

The night is with a lineup bands perform with VJs, domestic product and vintage goods retro exhibitions, photograph and video shows and Polaroid corner. Please wear domestic products for boys and vintage clothes for girls. No bling bling.

Where: Yugongyishan, Zhangzizhong Lu 3-2, west courtyard former site of Duan Qirui Government, Dongcheng District

When: July 24-25, 8:30 pm

Cost: 40 yuan

Tel: 6404 2711

(By He Jianwei)



# Double-Decker Tours debut Sunday

By Zhang Dongya

Two loops of City Double-Decker Tours will open for the first time Sunday.

It will adopt a video system both in Chinese and English on the buses, to introduce the capital's scenery and features, also information about the Olympic stadiums for tourists.

There are 20 buses in operation at the initial stage, with one departing every five to 10 minutes.

The uptown loop will feature the capital's historical scenes. From Beijing South Railway Station in the south to Beiguanting in the north, it runs 18 kilometers in all. Tourists can see many historical places including The Temple of Heaven, Qianmen, Tian'anmen Square, Jingshan Park, the Imperial Palace, Shechahai, Gulou and Lama Temple.

The downtown loop will focus on the Olympic stadiums. From Huizhongli in the north to Beiguanting in the south, it is a 16-kilometer trip. People can see the Olympic Sports Park, the Bird's Nest, Water Cube, National Olympic Sports Center and National Indoor Stadium on this line.

"The double-deckers were designed with large glass windows and ceiling speakers. In addition, the seats are not in fixed positions and have small tables between," Yao Zhenping, director of operation department at the Beijing Public Traffic Holdings (BPT), said.

People can take the buses at the



Gulou, the drum tower, one of the popular tourism spots

IC Photo

aforementioned stops. The price of the tickets has not been decided. "We will set the price before the bus operation," Liu Guifang, the spokesman of

BPT, said.

They said they would add more lines and loops according to the city's specifications in the future.

## ASK Beijing Today

Email your questions to: [weiyang@ynet.com](mailto:weiyang@ynet.com)

**I have many friends abroad. Some of my friends want to stay in my apartment during the Games. I heard that I needed to take them to get registered at the local PSB. What other documents should I take with me to help him register? What happens if my friend does not want to register?**

Your friend must provide a valid passport, with valid exit and entry certificate, together with a copy of the host's ID card and residence booklet, the certificate of property rights or the lease if it is you are renting the apartment. If your friend is found not registered but living in your place, he and you, or your landlord will be fined 500 yuan each.

**I am an expat who has lived in Beijing for a while now. I plan to buy my own property in Beijing. What documents I should take to register when I lodge in my own purchased houses?**

Just go to the local PSB with your passport, valid exit and entry certificates or residence permits, together with the certificate of property rights or property purchase contract.

**I heard there will be a lot of foreign employees arriving soon to work for the Olympics. I wonder if any special priorities will be offered from the Exit and Entry Bureau?**

The Beijing Exit and Entry Bureau will open a special window and one particular officer will deal with all things related to the Olympic Games.

**My wife and I have decided to have our child born in Beijing. How can we apply for a visa for the baby?**

After the baby is born, the parents or agents need to register at the visa office in Beijing within a month. The passports of the parents and the baby's birth certificate from the hospital are required. If the newborn baby has a passport, the Beijing Exit and Entry Bureau can issue a visa or residence permit. If you do not register with the police within one month, the parents or agents will be penalized according to regulations.

(By Wei Ying)

## Tickets on sale for Olympic sailing competition

By Jackie Zhang

The tickets for visiting the Olympic Sailing Center in Qingdao, Shandong Province, went on sale Tuesday. There are 60,000 tickets available, priced 20 yuan each.

The touring tickets are mainly for people to visit the sailing center and watch the sailing competition on the sea wall. To promote sailing sports and allow more people to experience sailing competitions, the main sea wall in the sailing center has been transferred into a land-

watching area.

With a touring ticket, people can go to watch the competition. It is the first time in Olympic sailing history that there has been a special land area from which to watch the competition.

On sunny days, people can see a view of the city and the entire sailing center from the sea wall. During competitions, visitors can also see sail boats and staff boats exit and enter the sailing center, but it is not possible to see the whole process behind

the competitions.

Post offices in Qingdao are the only authorized agents allowed to sell the tickets. There are 19 locations from which to purchase them.

There are three times when visitors can buy tickets. The first period runs from this Tuesday to Sunday, the second from July 26 to August 6 and the third from August 9 to August 21. Please be aware there is no place to buy tickets at the sailing center.

7

Debate



Peking Opera goes back to school

Rewards for relinquishing seats



Two kidney transplants rejected by regulations

Background

Eastern and western viewpoints meet here



洋腔论见

文化差异的碰撞与融合



Film shoot paralyzes city

Transformer substation breeds controversy

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7

Debate

BEIJING TODAY

Editor: Wei Ying Designer: Zhao Yan

BEIJING TODAY



For many who will come to China in a few months, the Olympics is not their only destination. It is this capital city of China that they are curious to have a look and take something back. From this week on till the end of September, Beijing Today will make series of guides for these people. The guide will include current popular local sites for food and shopping, and it will lead you to the places that are worth seeing, which haven't been published on your guidebook yet. One word, we hope you can feel the pulse of the city, digging deep into our daily life. Now, let's begin.



Black Cat Bone's summer blow-out



Liquid Oxygen Can 2008 China tour

## Nightlife

### Black Cat Bone's summer blow-out

Black Cat Bones, blues from Beijing's dark-suited crew will celebrate everything this summer, from the upcoming Olympics Games to blues.

Where: 2 Kologas Bar, inside the drive-in movie theater park, 21 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: 9 pm, July 19

Admission: 40 yuan (includes home-baked Bourbon Balls while supplies last)

Tel: 8196 4820

### A-Ok Band fifth anniversary

Where: New Get Luck Bar (Haoyun), A1 Xingba Lu, Nuren Jie, Chaoyang

When: 9 pm, July 18

Admission: 30 yuan

Tel: 8448 3335

### Liquid Oxygen Can 2008 China tour

The band Liquid Oxygen Can launch their EP on this show.

Where: New Get Luck Bar (Haoyun), A1 Xingba Lu, Nuren Jie, Chaoyang

When: 9 pm, July 19

Admission: 40-50 yuan

Tel: 8448 3335

## Movie

### Red Cliff

Billed as the most expensive film ever produced in Asia, the first installment of John Woo's epic, *Red Cliff* opens in theatres around Asia this month.

*Red Cliff* is based on a part of history that has given rise to legends and inspired video games and comic books. It was the time in the third-century AD, when Prime Minister Cao Cao undertook his quest to unite a divided China.

Where: Stellar International Cineplex, East End, F/5, Jinyuan Shopping Mall

When: July 18-25

Admission: 50-70 yuan

Tel: 8887 8695

### Ecuador vs. the Rest of the World

Where: Beijing Institute Cervantes, A 1 Gongti Nan Lu, Chaoyang

When: 7 pm, July 18-19

Admission: Free

Tel: 5879 9666

### Michel Vaillant

Where: French Culture Center, 1/F, Guangcai International Mansion, 18 Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang

When: 7:30 pm, July 18-21

Admission: 10-20 yuan

Tel: 6553 2627

### Goodbye Children

Where: Lanyang Bookstore, 3 Shuimo Xinqu, Haidian

When: 7:30 pm, July 18

Admission: Free

Tel: 6265 5069

### The Great Ziegfeld

Where: Minty, 26 Maoer Hutong, Dongcheng

When: 9 pm, July 21

Admission: Free

Tel: 13810222787

### Ceux qui m'aiment prendront le train

Where: Lanyang Bookstore, 3 Shuimo Xinqu, Haidian

When: 7:30 pm, July 22

Admission: Free

Tel: 6265 5069

### Lost in Translation

Where: Club Obiwan, 4 Xihai Xiyan, Xicheng

When: 8 pm, July 24

Admission: Free

Tel: 6617 3231



Red Cliff



Michel Vaillant



Goodbye Children



Expol-Sources Art Space



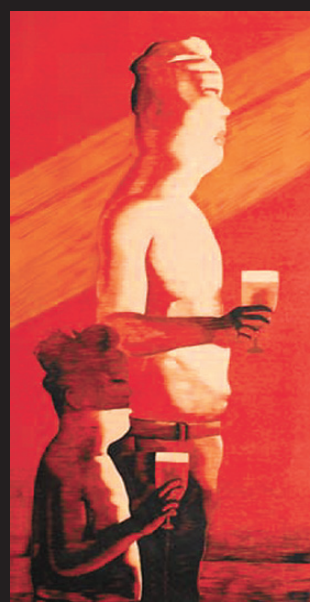
3818 Cool Gallery



Qin Gallery



Imagine Gallery



Amelie Art Gallery

## Exhibition

### Memorandum for the Next Century – Shen Bian Solo Exhibition

In this century, the fast development of technology changes our lives so that people are thrown off the spirit culture much track. When they enjoy global post-modern life, the distance between human and nature widens.

Shen Bian expresses his innovation and shares his thoughts on losing the beautiful past. His works focus on the forgotten scenery in the post-modernity.

Where: Expol-Sources Art Space, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun, 10:30 am – 6:30 pm, until July 27

Admission: Free

Tel: 6431 4793

### A Journey of Cultural Roots Rediscovery

The joint exhibition features Hao Liang, Yang Shewei, Yu Hongbo, Zhang Jiedong, Wang Yongcheng and Xiao Xu.

Where: 3818 Cool Gallery, 3818 Warehouse, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10:30 am – 6:30 pm, until July 28

Admission: Free

Tel: 8688 2525, 8456 6664

### Spring Festival contemporary oil painting exhibition

Where: Qin Gallery, Enjoy Paradise, Hweili 1-1E (North of Beijing Curio City), Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 9:30 am – 6 pm, until July 31

Admission: Free

Tel: 8779 0461, 8779 0458







Red Gate Gallery

**Artists @ 798 – Joint Exhibition**

The exhibition presents selected works from the artists' recent exhibitions. Lu Peng, Wei Qingji and Li Gang are very different in their choice and interpretation of subjects and techniques, but as Chinese artists of a similar generation, their work presents a microcosm of the diversity and commonality of practice existing in China today.

Where: Red Gate Gallery, Dongbianmen Watchtower, Chongwen

When: Daily 11 am – 6 pm, until July 31

Admission: Free

Tel: 6525 1005

**6th joint exhibition of Red Heart Art Society**

Where: F.Fine Art Gallery, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10 am – 6 pm, until August 4

Admission: Free

Tel: 8459 9257

**One World International Print Art Exhibition**

Where: Amelie Art Gallery, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 11 am – 7 pm, until August 14

Admission: Free

Tel: 6530 7048

**Notes of Conception: A Local Narrative of Chinese Contemporary Painting**

The exhibition features Cui Jie, Duan Jianyu, Gong Jian, Hu Liu, Ji Dachun, Li Qing, Li Wei, Liu Bin, Liu Wei, Qin Qi, Wang Guangle, Wang Luyan, Wang Yabin, Wang Yaqiang, Wang Yin and Yin Qi, showing great gaps in age, diversity in art themes and unevenness in popularity.

Where: Iberia Center for Contemporary Art, 4 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10 am – 6 pm, until August 15

Admission: Free

Tel: 6543 2086

**2008 / 8002 Somnambulate Realism – Wang Du Solo Exhibition**

Where: Arario Beijing, Brewery Art Complex, Beihuqu Lu, Andingmen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10 am – 6 pm, until August 20

Admission: Free

Tel: 5202 3800

**Unmoved – Joint Exhibition**

The selected artworks generate an almost uncomfortable situation where time has atypically slowed its rhythm, to the point of almost standing still. All the artworks are either in semi-stasis, in some cases quite still, and in others in constant slow movement, inviting the viewer to dally longer in their contemplation, both on a rational and emotional level.

Where: Galleria Continua, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 11 am – 6 pm, until August 24

Admission: Free

Tel: 6436 1005

**China Praise – Wang Limin Solo Exhibition**

Wang Limin expressions of Chinese youth's various states under the influence of praise in current society.

Where: Imagine Gallery, 8 Art Studio, Feijiacun Dong Lu, Cuigezhuang, Laiguangying Dong Lu, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10:30 am – 5:30 pm, until September 5

Admission: Free

Tel: 6438 5747

(By Li Jing)



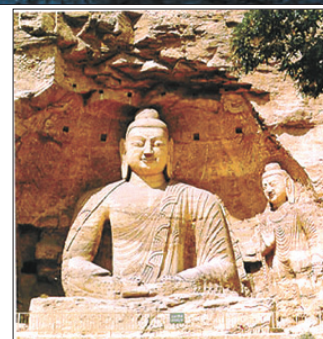
Meili Snow Mountain



Spring valley loop



Trail to the old couple's house



Yungang grottoes



Hunlun Buir Grasslands

## Outdoors

**Spring valley loop**

The loop is in the village of San Cha, which is situated at the fork of three valleys. The hike will pass by a ridge, where a remnant of the Great Wall from the Qin Dynasty will be found. There is not much left of it now, but it has held up well for a structure built from mud and rocks more than 2,000 years ago.

Where: Meet on the ground floor of Starbucks (Jiangtai Lu, Lido Holiday Inn)

When: 8:30 am – 5 pm, July 19

Cost: 300 yuan

Tel: 13910025516 (reservations are essential)

**Trail to the old couple's house**

This hike starts off on a trail in a deep valley that leads uphill, arriving at an orchard on an open slope. From there a bushy trail leads to a clearing in the pines on the ridge. It is interesting to note the difference in the scenery between the two sides of the ridge, with pines and forest on one side, and colored rocks and different flora on the other.

Where: Meet on the ground floor of Starbucks (Jiangtai Lu, Lido Holiday Inn)

When: 8:30 am – 5 pm, July 20

Cost: 250 yuan

Tel: 13910025516 (reservations are essential)

**Datong trip**

Datong in the north of Shanxi, is known for the second-largest of the nearly 51,000 sandstone statues of Buddha in 53 Yungang grottoes and the wooden Hanging Monastery built about 1,400 years ago on the extremely sheer cliffs of Hengshan Mountain. Bridges and corridors connect the differ-

ent buildings of the monastery.

The trip is highlighted by a visit to the second-largest grottoes in China, the narrow wooden Hanging Monastery and villagers in the cave-dwellings. At the end of the tour, you will have chance to visit a local school campus and classrooms and meet the local kids.

When: take overnight train to Datong on July 18 and return to Beijing on July 20

Cost: 1,700 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341, 6432 1041

(reservations are essential)

**Hunlun Buir Grasslands**

Hulun Buir Grasslands, located outside the remote border town of Manzhouli, are known locally as the "most unsullied prairie", because of the lack of pollution and the uninterrupted green that, in summer, stretches in all directions. Hulunbuir is fed by hundreds of rivers, large and small, that have made this area highly popular with the Mongolian nomads and herders. The tour will also travel to Hulun Lake and Manzhouli.

When: Fly to Manzhouli on July 18 and fly back on July 20

Cost: 5,800 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341, 6432 1041

(reservations are essential)

**Nine-day trek from Meili Snow Mountain to Cizhong**

The snow-capped mountains, whose every peak is the subject of an enchanting tale. The glacier at the foot of the peak extends 3,257 meters downward to a surprisingly low level, seeming to plunge into the Lancang (Mekong) River.

When: start the tour in Kunming on July 22, and end the tour in Lijiang on July 30

Cost: 10,200-14,000 yuan

Tel: 8621 6278 (reservations are essential)

Continued on page 14 ...



... continued from page 13



Mozarteum University: Concert of Viennese Chamber Music

Photo by Hua Yi

## Festival Events

### Conservatory Music Festival

The Yale School of Music and Beijing's Central Conservatory of Music are hosting the Conservatory Music Festival coming in a few days' time. Students and professors from 10 of the world's most elite schools of music will join in the festival.

World-famous academies such as Universitt Mozarteum Salzburg, Liszt Academy (Budapest), The Julliard School (New York), and the Beethoven Institute at the University of Music and Performing Arts (Vienna) are all included.

The festival calls for each of the conservatories to present a series of programs in various venues at the Beijing Central Conservatory of Music, the Forbidden City Concert Hall and the dazzling titanium and glass National Center for the Performing Arts.

#### Franz Liszt Academy Piano Recital by Istvn Lajk

Who: Istvn Lajk  
Where: Central Conservatory Recital Hall, 43 Baojia Jie, Xicheng  
When: 2 pm, July 18  
Admission: free  
Tel: 6641 2017

#### Franz Liszt Academy Cello Recital by Istvn Lajk

Who: Istvn Lajk  
Where: Central Conservatory Recital Hall, 43 Baojia Jie, Xicheng  
When: 3:30 pm, July 18  
Admission: free  
Tel: 6641 2017

#### Piano Recital by Hong Xu, Julliard School

Who: Hong Xu  
Where: Central Conservatory Concert Hall, 43 Baojia Jie, Xicheng  
When: 7:30 pm, July 18  
Admission: free (but entrance tickets needed)  
Tel: 6641 2017

#### Sydney Conservatorium of Music: Concert for Mixed Ensembles

Who: Sydney Conservatorium of Music  
Where: Central Conservatory Concert Hall, 43 Baojia Jie, Xicheng  
When: 4 pm, July 19  
Admission: free (but entrance tickets needed)  
Tel: 6641 2017

#### Korean National University of the Arts: Piano Recital

Who: Korean National University of Arts  
Where: Central Conservatory Concert Hall, 43 Baojia Jie, Xicheng  
When: 7:30 pm, July 19  
Admission: free (but entrance tickets needed)  
Tel: 6641 2017

#### Sydney Conservatorium of Music: Concert of Australian Music

Who: Sydney Conservatorium of

#### Music

Where: Central Conservatory Recital Hall, 43 Baojia Jie, Xicheng  
When: 3 pm, July 20  
Admission: free  
Tel: 6641 2017

#### University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna: Recital by Antoinette van Zabner and Waltraud Wulz, piano duo

Who: Antoinette van Zabner and Waltraud Wulz  
Where: Forbidden City Concert Hall  
When: 7:30 pm, July 20  
Admission: 10-100 yuan  
Tel: 6559 8285

#### University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna: Recital of Austrian Piano Music by Manon Liu Winter

Who: Manon Liu Winter  
Where: Central Conservatory Concert Hall  
When: 7:30 pm, July 21  
Admission: free (but entrance tickets needed)  
Tel: 6641 2017

#### Philharmonia Orchestra of Yale: Concert with Wang Jian, cello

Who: Philharmonia Orchestra of Yale, Wang Jian  
Where: Forbidden City Concert Hall  
When: 7:30 pm, July 22  
Admission: 20-100 yuan  
Tel: 6559 8285

#### Yale School of Music: Master Class/ Recital with Professor Robert van Sice and Yale Percussion Group

Who: Professor Robert van Sice, Yale Percussion Group  
Where: Central Conservatory Recital Hall, 43 Baojia Jie, Xicheng  
When: 7:30 pm, July 23  
Admission: free  
Tel: 6641 2017

(By Zhang Nan)

#### Gateway to Music – Summer Festival 2008

##### Sound from Heaven – Danish Boys' Choir

Who: Danish Boys Choir  
Where: Forbidden City Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng  
When: 7:30 pm, July 19  
Admission: 20-100 yuan  
Tel: 6559 8306

##### Stories from Vienna – Piano Duet Concert

Who: Waltraud Wulz and Antoinette Van Zabner  
Where: Forbidden City Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng  
When: 7:30 pm, July 20  
Admission: 10-100 yuan  
Tel: 6559 8306

##### Happy Cowboy – Children's Choir

Who: Beijing Children's Palace Chorus  
Where: Forbidden City Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng  
When: 2 pm, July 20  
Admission: 10-100 yuan

#### Tel: 6559 8306 Traditional and Modern Peking Opera Excerpts

Who: China National Peking Opera Company  
Where: Forbidden City Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng  
When: 7:30 pm, July 21  
Admission: Free  
Tel: 6559 8306

#### Concertos by Li Chuanyun and Young Artists

Who: China Broadcasting Art Troupe  
Where: Beijing Music Hall, 1 Bei Xinhua Jie, Xicheng  
When: 7:30 pm, July 22  
Admission: 10-100 yuan  
Tel: 6605 7006

#### West Side Story – Yale Philharmonia

Who: Yale Philharmonic Orchestra of Yale University School of Music  
Where: Forbidden City Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng  
When: 7:30 pm, July 22  
Admission: 20-100 yuan  
Tel: 6559 8306

#### Concert by American String Quartet

Who: American String Quartet  
Where: Beijing Music Hall, 1 Bei Xinhua Jie, Xicheng  
When: 7:30 pm, July 23  
Admission: 10-100 yuan  
Tel: 6605 7006

#### Violin and Piano Classics

Who: Sheng Zhongguo and Seta Hiroko  
Where: Forbidden City Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng  
When: 7:30 pm, July 23-24  
Admission: 10-100 yuan  
Tel: 6559 8306

## Stage Events

### Concert

#### Sino-German Youth Symphony Orchestra China Tour

Who: Sino-German Youth Symphony Orchestra  
Where: Forbidden City Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng  
When: 7:30 pm, July 25  
Admission: 30-380 yuan  
Tel: 6559 8306

#### Night of Shanghai Cooperation Organization

Who: China National Symphony Orchestra and artists from the five countries of SCO  
Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People  
When: 7:30 pm, July 18-19  
Admission: 50-400 yuan  
Tel: 6655 0000

#### Opera

##### Action Musical Tang Concubines

Who: Sight, Sound and Action  
Where: Century Theatre, 40 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang  
When: 7:30 pm, July 11-26  
Admission: 80-420 yuan  
Tel: 6465 6904

##### Tosca

Who: Rome Opera House  
Where: National Grand Theater Music Hall, on the west side of the Great Hall of the People  
When: 7:30 pm, July 17-20  
Admission: 180-880 yuan  
Tel: 6655 0000

#### Dance

##### Swan Lake by China National Ballet

Who: China National Ballet  
Where: PKU Centennial Memorial Hall, 116 Zhongguancun Bei Dajie, Haidian  
When: 7 pm, July 19-20  
Admission: 20-200 yuan  
Tel: 6275 8452

##### The Moon Reflected in Er-quan Spring

Who: Liaoning Ballet Troupe  
Where: Tian Qiao Theater, 30 Beiwei Lu, Xuanwu  
When: 7:30 pm, July 22-25  
Admission: 50-380 yuan  
Tel: 5166 4511

# NINELIVES

## The Birth of Avant-Garde Art

### in New China

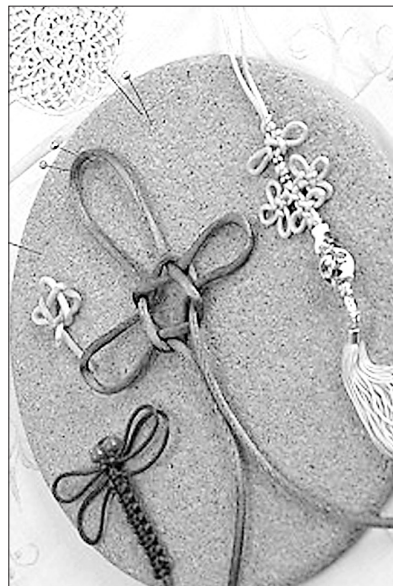
Karen Smith

## Book

### Nine Lives – A booktalk by Karen Smith

Karen Smith is one of the foremost Western commentators on Chinese contemporary art, writing for numerous worldwide publications and serving as a consultant, critic and curator for such prestigious institutions as the Tate International Council, the board of the New York Museum and the Museum of Modern Art, New York. Don't miss her fascinating insights on one of the most dynamic aspects of Chinese culture.

Where: The Bookworm, Building 4, Nan Sanlitun Lu, Chayang  
When: 7:30 pm, July 22  
Tel: 6586 9507



## Folk Activities

### Tying Chinese knot: longevity knots

Learn to make the auspicious knots from folk artists, and create your own knots such as butterfly or lily shoes and other patterns of crafts to hang around your neck or attach to your handbag.

Where: Chinese Culture Club (CCC), Kent Center, 29 Anjialou, Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: 2-6:30 pm, July 23

Cost: 120 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341, 6432 1041 (registration is important)

#### Calligraphy

The calligraphy course is set for non mandarin-speaking students and conducted in English, covering everything from meaning and evolution of the characters, culture to history and music of the period.

Where: Chinese Culture Club (CCC), Kent Center, 29 Anjialou, Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: 10-11:30 am, July 22

Cost: 120 yuan

Tel: 6432 9341, 6432 1041 (registration is important)

(By Li Jing)



# Checking out the cheapest clothes in town

By Gan Tian

When exploring the city, visitors should be aware of places where they can buy the cheapest clothes. Even locals tire of the expensive garments sold in the fancy shopping malls. *Beijing Today* has scouted out some of the best places in town where you can save money.



CFP Photo

## A human zoo with great prices

By Lily Li

If you only think of places like the Silk Market and Yashow Market when you go bargain shopping, it's time for a real lesson in Beijing shopping.

The Beijing Zoo Clothing Market is a heavenly place for shopping lovers. One might think most young girls are talking about animals when they mention the Beijing Zoo but, in reality, they are referring to a clothing market.

The Beijing Zoo Clothing Market is located opposite the Beijing Zoo, next to the Beijing Planetarium. Its history dates back to 1980, when all you could see was a street full of vendors.

Now the clothing market has evolved into a large-scale shopping compound, including four to five professional wholesale and retail market buildings. The major ones are Dongding, Zhonghe, Tianhao City and Shiji Tianle. The market is famous for its cheap prices and selection. You can find everything from clothes and shoes to bags, for men, women and kids. Most of the brands are Chinese or Chinese copies. Prices range from 5 to several hundred yuan. Most of the shops at the Beijing Zoo Clothing Market are wholesale. Shop owners from other markets in Beijing come here to stock. That's why things are so cheap. But many are, at the same time, retailers. In order to get the best deal, you need to adhere to the following shopping tips.

### Timing

The business hours for Beijing Zoo Clothing Market are from 5 am to 3 pm daily. In the early morning hours shop owners are busily engaged in wholesale business and tend to ignore single customers. Therefore the best hours to shop are between 10 am and 2 pm, weekdays if possible, since weekends are too crowded. Right now, most shops are clearing their summer stocks, so it is a perfect time to get discount summer clothes.

### Directions

Dongding market, the biggest in the compound, has five floors. The good news

is that shops here are mostly retailers, over 600 of them. Some have already developed their own style. At the basement level you can buy all kinds of shoes. The first floor is for trousers, mostly jeans, usually 30 to 40 yuan a pair. You can also find leisurewear, sportswear and suits. From the second floor up, all kinds of men's and women's clothing is for sale. On the third floor there is a foreign trade store where you can find nice T-shirts. Zhonghe market is a two-story building with clothing on the first floor and shoes on the second. Clothes and shoes here are not that trendy. Some shops have clothes suitable for women aged plus 40.

Farther back on the second floor, there is a bag shop worth visiting. Tianhao City market is a four-story structure. There are many South Korean clothing shops on the third floor. If you are into the South Korean style, you should not miss this floor. You will find very fashionable wear ranging from caps and shoes to stockings and clothes, mostly for women.

### Reminders

Firstly, customers are not allowed to try on clothing. Because most shops deal with wholesalers, they don't have changing rooms, and in most cases simply do not allow it. Secondly, protect your cell phone and purse from being stolen since it is usually crowded. Thirdly, get psyched up for some harsh bargains. Finally, eat before you go since it is an energy-consuming place.

Your first impression of the Beijing Zoo Clothes Market might be chaotic and confusing, and it is almost impossible for newcomers to find their way through the maze of countless small shops and narrow passages especially when it's crowded. When you get to know it better, shopping there can be both efficient and worthwhile. Remember, nothing is difficult, only unfamiliar. For the experience alone, the Beijing Zoo Clothes Market definitely deserves a visit.

### Beijing Zoo Clothes Market

Where: South to Beijing Zoo, Xicheng District

## Wudaokou market targets youth

By Huang Weina

Wudaokou clothing market's primary business is trendy clothes, and you can find almost every famous Korean brand.

For example, brands like Radio Garden, designed by Song Seung Heon, Cha Tae Hyun or TBJ and ONG from Insung Cho and other international brands like Puma, Lee, Polo and Converse.

Clothing styles in Wudaokou adapt the trends of the Korean hip-hop due to the number of Korean students there.

There are many universities around, so the prices reflect the student's budget and 30 to 60 yuan will get you a trendy T-shirt. Another 50 yuan will buy you a comfortable pair of jeans.

Those with weak bargaining skills or a dislike for Japanese or Korean styles should avoid Wudaokou.

### Green shadow dress

It's an adorable Korean dress with the upper half in unisex style that shows a frank character and the lower part in light-colored calico that promotes the loveliness of an innocent girl.

Green Tops: 80 yuan Grey knitting coat: 120 yuan Calico skirt: 80-150 yuan

### Grey dress

The shirt combined with a little black skirt is more fitting of Japanese style.

Stripe shirt: 80 yuan Grey knitting coat: 120 yuan Black skirt: 80-150 yuan

Where: A-276

### Male garments

You'll find attractive top wear ... messy but charming. Brown casual shorts are on sale which can blend with any top.

Grey T-shirt: 80 yuan Brown shorts: 200 yuan

Where: A-214

### Accessories

This shop's clothes and accessories are high class but not expensive here with fair prices. The owner has been running this shop for years in Wudaokou, an easy-going man with lots of loyal customers. The girls' caps sell well and are great protection from the sun.

Colorful cap: 35 yuan

Accessories: 15-20 yuan

Where: A-272

### Wudaokou clothing market

Where: 261 North 4th ring mid Road, Haidian District (South of the University of Science and Technology's front gate)



Photo by Huang Weina

Continued on page 16 ...



... continued from page 15

# Another Silk Road

By Gan Tian

The Silk Street is on any tourist's list of places to visit in China, especially bargain-hunters.

Near the US Embassy, the market consists of about 300 stores crammed into one block. Bargaining is the eternal theme here in Xiushuijie. Whatever you wish to buy be it bags, shoes, handicrafts or sweaters, you may haggle enthusiastically with the vendor for a better price.

It is an interesting scene to witness vendors holding their electric calculators, arguing the price with a foreigner in broken English. Never be tricked. If you are not satisfied with the product and the price, turn around and go – you can always find the same article at the next shop. Alan, a jacket lover, always gets his outfits here. He shared his experience, "All kinds of jackets can be found here. It all depends on your bargaining skills. If you are a proficient bargainer, then you can get great deals on all

kinds of clothing, but if you are soft-hearted and don't like confrontation, then you may get taken for a ride."

The vendors selling clothing and accessories here mentioned that most items are collected from all over the country, and some are hand-made in rural areas. The clothes come in very fashionable styles and some are very traditional and good quality.

As always, the Silk Street offers great values on fine cashmere and silk, with designer labels available at knockdown prices. The Silk Street keeps respectable hours, so beat the rush and get there early. Nearby shopping malls offer plenty of places to rest, sip designer coffee or grab a quick bite.

## Silk Street (Xiushui Jie)

Where: 8 Xiushui Dong Jie, Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang District  
Open: 9 am - 9 pm  
Tel: 5169 9003



# Qipao on the Red Bridge

By Gan Tian

Hongqiao Market, the Pearl Market, located near the Temple of Heaven, is a well-known market which trades pearls from around the world, but there are also some lesser-known clothing stands there with quality silk.

Silk has been a symbol of China since ancient times, and products found in Hongqiao Market are of high quality. Go to the second floor directly if you only want to buy clothes and silk. One of the market's best products is qipao. Once a traditional costume for Chinese women during Qing Dynasty has now gained popularity amongst foreign ladies. Here you can find some collarless tube-shaped gowns, which can be worn by both men and women.

In the left corner of the east stairs on the second floor, is a vendor selling qipaos in the simplest style - from the collar, loop, chest and waist to the hips and lower hem. As qipao varies with a woman's figure, the vendor even pro-

vides a tailoring service but you must wait a few days for the altered garment to be finished.

Some of the best silk can be found on the same floor. The prices vary with the quality of the silk, but you can bargain. The golden rule is to cut the price by a half – if the vendor demands 100 yuan, try suggesting 50. If he does not agree, turn around and walk away, but do not worry, the vendor will call you back and sell you whatever you want.

The place is not difficult to find. Take buses 6, 34, 35, 36, 39, 41, 43, 60, 106, 116, 723, 743 or 821 and get off at Fahuasi stop. You will see an ancient Chinese-style building with two tall towers. If you get bored shopping, do take a trip to the Temple of Heaven and show off your newly-bought silk qipao.

## Hongqiao Market

Where: F2, Hongqiao Market, 36 Tiantan Dong Lu, Chongwen District  
Open: 9 am - 9 pm  
Tel: 6711 8984



# Hottest clothing markets

## Beijing Zoo Tianle Clothing Market

Where: south of the Beijing Zoo, Xicheng District

## Guanyuan Clothing Market

Where: 500 meters south of the Guanyuan Overfly Bridge, West Second Ring Road, Xicheng District

## Muxiyuan Clothing Market

Where: south of the Muxiyuan Overfly Bridge, South Third Ring Road, Fengtai District

## Hongmen Shoes City

Where: 1 Dahongmen Xi Li, Fengtai District

Tel: 5103 5678

## Dakang Shoes Market

Where: 19 Dahongmen Xi Li, Fengtai District

Tel: 5103 1217

## Dahongmen Clothing Market

Where: 15 Yongnan Lu, Fengtai District  
Tel: 6722 6658

(By Gan Tian)

	Location	Quantity	Quality	Price	Service	Environment
Wudaokou	★★	★	★★★★	★★	★	★★
Zoo	★★★	★★★★	★	★★★★	★	★
Hongqiao	★	★★★	★★★★	★★	★★★★	★★★★
Silk Market	★★★★	★★★★	★★★★	★★	★★★★	★★★★

Notice:

\* Beijing Today has created an assessment chart based on random visitor interviews

\* The more asterisks ★ a market has, the better it ranks in the column.

\* For the price column, the more asterisks, the cheaper the product is.

CFP Photos



# Chinese food of the West

By Gan Tian

When people talk about eating at "Chinese restaurants" in Western countries, most of the time they are talking about Cantonese cuisine.

Most "Chinese restaurants" in the West serve

authentic Cantonese fare or dishes derived from it. *Beijing Today* has found some of the capital's top Cantonese restaurants for travelers interested in comparing the dishes to the Chinese restaurant in their hometown.



Scalded Chinese broccoli

## Almost private dining hall for late eaters

By Gan Tian

The popular Jindingxuan is famous for its delicate and affordable Cantonese dishes. The house specialty is Shuijing Xiajiaohuang (crystal shrimp dumplings). The restaurant serves it with chopped shrimp and bamboo shoots, mushrooms and parsley. Salt, sugar, sesame oil, pepper and peanuts are added in the last step. Each bite is packed with the taste of shrimp and flour.

Baizhuo Jielan, scalded Chinese broccoli, is best when eaten with meat. The green vegetable is served on a small plate with vinegar and soy sauce. The broccoli, fried only a few seconds, is crispy. It comes almost fresh and green, but the sauce gives it a sour and salty taste.

For beverages, the restaurant serves Cantonese ice cream floats.

Special sales hours can stretch the customer's dollars even further. If a customer goes there after 10 pm and before 11 am, or between 2 pm and 5 pm, most dishes will cost 5.8 yuan per dish. This reporter has often starved until 10 pm to go and enjoy the discount.

One of the most disappointing parts is sometimes the late-night live shows. People who go to the restaurant to relax or talk with their friends will be disappointed. The volume is so loud that it drowns out everything else.

### Jindingxuan

Open: all day

### Ditan Branch

Where: 77 Hepingli Xi Jie, Dongcheng District

Tel: 6429 6888

### Yayuncun Branch

Where: 15 Yiyuan, Anhui Bei Li, Chaoyang District

Tel: 6497 8978

### Jinyuan Branch

Where: F1, Golden Source Shopping Mall, 1 Yuanda Lu, Haidian District

Tel: 8887 1155

### Fangzhuang Branch

Where: 16 Pufang Lu, Fangzhuang, Fengtai District

Tel: 6767 8811

### Tuanjiehu Branch

Where: 15 Tuanjiehu Nan Lu, Chaoyang District

Tel: 8596 8881

## Ingredients behind the Canton flavor

By Gan Tian

Cantonese cuisine is the dominant style of Chinese food outside the country, due in part to its compatibility with Western tastes and the southern emigrants who carried it abroad. In the mainland, it enjoys a special place as one of the country's eight great culinary traditions.

Classic Cantonese sauces are light, and perhaps bland when compared to the thicker, darker and richer sauces of other cuisine. Spring onion, sugar, salt, soy sauce, rice wine, corn starch, vinegar, sesame and other oils enhance, though garlic is dominant in many dishes. Ginger, chili peppers, five-spice powder, powdered white pepper, star anise and a few other spices are used, but sparingly.

The Cantonese menu is home to many dishes, some of which are common home cooking throughout the south. Home-made dishes are usually served with plain white rice. Steamed eggs, congee with thousand year old eggs, Cantonese fried rice, sweet and sour pork, steamed spare ribs with fermented black beans and chili pepper, stir-fried vegetables with meat and blanched vegetables with oyster sauce.

## Authentic southern flavor in the capital

By Jackie Zhang

The interior of Le Pot-au-Feu is like something out of a Hong Kong movie, but rather than the typical teas and snacks, it serves authentic Canton dishes, soups, rice pots and seafood.

It is not terribly easy to spot. Although not small, it lacks the pomp and flash most local restaurants employ to attract customers. The customers it does draw, however, are regulars.

Rice pots are a traditional staple of Guangdong Province, and Le Pot-au-Feu's are highly recommended. There are 20 flavors of rice pots to select from, including sausage, chicken, griskin and duck.

The sausage rice pot is a house specialty. Preserved pork sausage and duck legs are mixed with the rice to infuse a meaty flavor when cooking. One pot serves four to six.

Fin served with chicken soup is another highly-recommended dish. The highlight of the dish is not the fin, but the broth. Le Pot-au-Feu's soups are boiled a long time, and the flavor comes out in the first spoonful. The explosive flavor can hardly be compared to soups made from bullion.

First-floor diners can watch their dishes get cooked through a glass window.

The second floor is quiet, and is designed for group dinners or for lovers to share a romantic meal. There are special rooms available for guests to dine in a comparatively independent environment.

### Le Pot-au-Feu

Where: Beside the north gate of Side Park, Jiangtai Xi Lu, Chaoyang District

Open: 10 am - 11 pm

Tel: 6438 8889

An inside view of Le Pot-au-Feu

Photo by Jackie Zhang



Continued on page 18...



## Richang, old-line Cantonese cuisine

By Zhang Dongya

Richang Tea Restaurant, also called Otto's Restaurant, is a typical Canton and Hong Kong style place that serves authentic dishes.

The place was originally a diner for working class people in Canton, with its jarring environment and indecipherable wall-mounted menu. According to tradition, it is a habit for Cantonese people to have afternoon tea at about 3:30 pm. When it opened, Richang was the first and only restaurant in Beijing to offer authentic Hong Kong milk tea and traditional Cantonese dishes.

Since it opened its first Beijing branch in Dongdan 10 years ago, the chain has expanded to include five Beijing locations, notably the 24-hour branch just east of the north entrance to Beihai Park.

Richang's Beihai branch, or Di'anmen branch, its Beijing flagship, opened in 2003. The three-story building kept the traditional teahouse style and added clay pots. The second floor has a large platform facing Ping'an Street and Shishahai, to supply a comfortable and pleasant cool dining place for guests.

It serves various foods including Baozai, or casserole, Bifengtang, steamed dishes, desserts, snacks and soups.

The restaurant specializes in Baozai, or clay pot, rice dishes, the best of which is the Lawei Huaji Baozaifan, a mix of rice, salty-sweet sausage and chicken drizzled in soy sauce. Zhibao Jichi, Paper-wrapped Chicken Wings, is highly recommended by users of Dianping.com. Thick glasses of iced coffee sweetened with condensed milk are the perfect remedy for midsummer malaise.

The restaurant has attracted Cantonese people from all over Beijing and from many fields. An English menu is available, and reservations are essential.

### Richang Restaurant

Where: Richang Restaurant (Beihai Branch), 14 Di'anmen Xi Dajie, (near north entrance of Beihai Park), Xicheng

Open: 10 am – 3 am the next day

Tel: 6405 8205



Deep-fried cuttlefish with Garlic "Bi Feng Tong Style"

Photo provided by Richang Restaurant

## Sweet boat in the hotel

By Gan Tian

Sampan Restaurant is located in the Gloria Plaza Hotel Beijing, making finding it as challenging as navigating a maze. That does not stop it from being the hottest Cantonese restaurant in town.

Its also known as Chuan Canting, the Boat Restaurant. Its fabulous mini-aquarium shows off a fine collection of tropical, deepwater life by the entrance. The classic marble, granite and golden decorative glasses incorporate traditional elements in modern style. The ambience is contemporary, elegant and warm.

He Shuqiang, the executive chef Chinese Kitchen, is the head of the restaurant. He has extensive culinary experience, and has worked in the field for 15 years. His menu features favorite and signature authentic Chinese dishes such as Double Boiled Shark's Fin Soup, Chinese Herbal Soup and a selection of sumptuous Dim Sum.

The snacks are another must for diners. His Durian Cakes are hotter and softer than those in other restaurants. After you bite through the crispy exterior, the cake melts in your mouth. They are packed with the flavor of durian and fried flour. It also serves Shamoi, a typical Cantonese snack stuff with seasoned ground pork, whole and chopped shrimps with bits of black mushroom.

The environment is perfect for a private talk. All the diners praise its good service and quiet. Genna Wang, a diner, came after winning a lucky draw. She got a free toasted duck. Pan Shuiming, her boyfriend, said the waitresses were cute. He planned to order a plate of fruit, but the waitress said it cost 20 yuan each. He canceled the order because it was too expensive, but then the waitress said, "I see you two are enjoying a great time. The two orders of fruit dessert will be on the house!"

### Sampan Restaurant

Where: F1, Gloria Plaza Hotel Beijing, 2 Jianguomen Nan Dajie, Chaoyang District

Open: 10:30 am – 3 pm, 5:30 pm – 10 pm

Tel: 6515 8855 ext 2155



Fruit boat

Photo provided by Sampan Restaurant

## Other choices

### Chaoyang District Wangshunge Seafood Restaurant

"Instant boiled abalone" is a popular dish in this quality restaurant. The juicy abalone covered with sauce is prepared at the table – a treat to both eyes and tongue.

Where: 88 Beiyuan Road,

Yayuncun, Chaoyang District

Tel: 6495 6668, 6495 8686

Open: 10:30 am – 10 pm

### No 8 Apartment Cantonese Restaurant

Adjacent to Chaoyang Park, this restaurant has a quite and elegant atmosphere. Its delicious food and great service make it an excellent spot for business banquets.

Where: 8 Chaoyang Gongyuan Xi Lu, Chaoyang District

Tel: 6508 9999, 6591 8999

Open: 10:30 am – 3 pm, 5:30 pm to midnight

### Dongcheng District Lei Garden

This traditional Cantonese restaurant is famous for its twice-stewed soup. Its dishes tend to be mild, but nutritious. The grand decorations and friendly waiters are very impressive.

Where: F3, Jinbao Plaza, 89 Jinbao Jie, Dongcheng District

Tel: 8522 1212

Open: 10:30 am – 3 pm, 5:30 pm to midnight

### Tang Palace Seafood Restaurant

If you like dim sum, this is the place to go. It has a nice atmosphere and nicer food. Be careful when selecting dishes – sometimes diners will pay for more than they get.

Where: F3, Novotel, 2 Dongji-aominxiang, Dongcheng District

Tel: 6512 9603

Open: 10 am – 11 pm

### Noble Court

This restaurant is known for its shark fin, abalone and five-star environment combined with top service. It is an unforgettable dining experience.

Where: B1, Grand Hyatt Beijing, 1 Chang'an Street, Dongcheng District

Tel: 8518 1234

Open: 10:30 am – 11 pm

### Xicheng District Shunfeng Restaurant

Once the most luxurious restaurants in Beijing, Shunfeng remains a hot spot for banquets. Seafood and other ingredients are carefully chosen to satisfy the pickiest customer.

Where: 1 Lianhuachi Dong Lu, Xicheng District

Tel: 6346 6095

Open: 10:30 am – 3 pm, 5 pm to midnight

### Haidian District Hexianji Restaurant

Hexianji's delicious chicken soup is good for people with an upset stomach. Another dish, roasted duck, also attracts lots of Cantonese students from nearby universities. It tends to be little crowded at rush hour. Smoking is allowed.

Where: F1, Ziyuanyanyuan Hotel, 1Yiheyuan Lu, Haidian District

Open: 10:30 am – 11 pm

Tel: 6275 0968

(By Yu Tian)



## Sights of China, near and far

By He Jianwei

Throughout its history, China has always had tremendous cultural diversity.

For the next several weeks, *Beijing Today* will devote three pages each week to hunt down the cuisine of Olympic host cities here in China. In Beijing's ancient part, you will see both the ancient and modern city and experience a day in the life of a traditional Beijinger.

It will also introduce new travel destinations – the kind which is not in the new arrival's friendly China guidebook.

# First light in Beijing



Local villagers grind wheat.

### Only one road in the village

The village's beauty comes not from the mountains that surround it, but in the displays lining its lone road. The village is long and narrow, running from east to west. Dwelling houses in the west side appear to have been built below the road's level. Many windows are level with the road.

### Touring industrialization

The number of tourists in the village is gradually increasing. Huayuancun enacted several touring laws at the beginning of the year, and there are now two standardized home-stay operations.

Li Zhixin is one of the home-hotel owners. His house has a clean and simple design. Mountains and forests are visible from the entrance.

He built up a leisure room in his back yard against the mountain. The house has a billiards table, and guests are invited to play after dinner. He also designed a scavenger hunt game for his guests to play.

Song Xiaomei has a small hotel at the south entrance of the village. She picked small yellow flowers from the mountain and made specially-designed business cards of herself with the flowers. On each business card, there is a small yellow flower pressed in the plastic cover. The flowers leave a lasting impression with everyone she distributes her cards to, she said.

At present, a German company is cooperating with Huayuancun to develop zoological forests in the village. They will cut down some of the big trees that are invading the space where other trees could grow. "The development of a zoological forest is also important for tourism. We'll plant various edible mushrooms under the trees so visitors will be able to go mushroom hunting," Song said.

### First lit every day

Local villagers said the first spot sunlight strikes is the beacon tower of Heiguguan. The tower, at the east end of Huayuancun, is a huge stone to mark the point where sunlight first arrives in Beijing. It is a 20-minute climb up the mountain to the tower. Sunlight arrives every day between 4 to 5 am, so visitors have to rise early to glimpse first light.

**Tip:** The temperature difference between night and morning is big, so it is easy to catch a cold. Wear long-sleeves clothes and trousers if you intend to climb the mountain. They will protect you from thorns and branches on the mountain.

### Stone-made houses

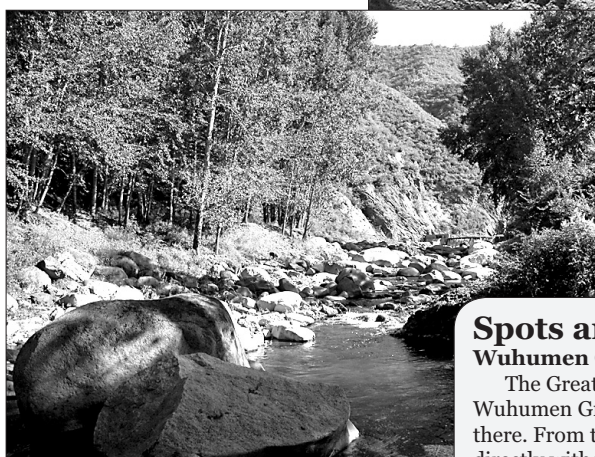
Many houses in the village are built with stone collected from the nearby Andamu River. Walking along the road to the north, the river comes out from the nearby mountain. Many big stones on the riverbed are used by local villagers to build houses. There are spring mouths at the river banks, from which clear spring flows out continuously.

Garden Village, or Huayuancun, lies at the easternmost end of Beijing's Miyun District. It is the first part of the city to see sunrise each morning.

The village is located 140 kilometers away from the city's downtown, where it is boxed by the hinterland of Wuling Mountain and 20 kilometers of Ming Great Wall. As much as 80 percent of the village is forested.



This is the place to see the first light and is the border of four districts.



The stone in the nearby river are used by local people to build homes.

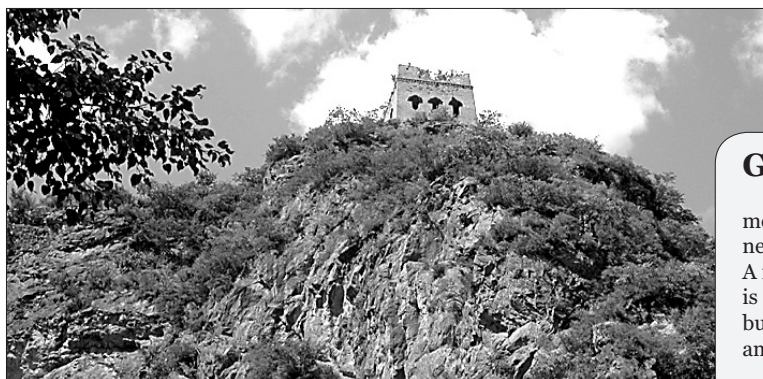
### Spots around

#### Wuhumen Great Wall

The Great Wall to the south of the village is called the Wuhumen Great Wall. There are forests and many streams there. From the village, visitors can enter the scenic spot directly without a ticket. It costs you 91 yuan to enter if you go in from the gate in Hebei Province.

#### Yunxiu Hunting Field

There is a hunting field in Yaoqiaoyu Village, south of Huayuancun. It is the only hunting field in Beijing.



The beacon tower of Heiguguan.

CFP Photos

### Getting there:

Get on bus 980 at Dongzhimen station. The two-hour journey to the village costs 15 yuan. A mini bus to Xinchengzi Village is also available for 10 yuan. Mini buses depart at 7:30 and 10:30 am each day.

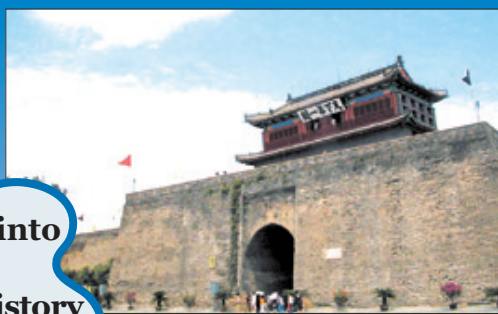
(By Jackie Zhang)



# Seaside resort for the millennia



## Window into ancient China's history



Shanhaiguan is called "the First Pass under Heaven."

Qinhuangdao is a time-honored city named after emperor Qinshihuang (259-210 BC), the first man to unite China. He once made an inspection tour to Jieshi, present day Qinhuangdao, and sent people out to sea to help him look for the legendary immortals.

If one compares the Great Wall to a dragon, then Qinhuangdao is located at the beast's head, where it faces the sea. Local scenery includes the Great Wall and the sea-side. Shanhaiguan, dubbed "the First Pass under Heaven," is at the easternmost tip of the Great Wall.

At present, there are six primary tourist spots here, the First Pass under Heaven, Laolongtou, or Old Dragon's Head, the Temple of Mengjiangnu, the Jiaoshan Mountain, the Changshoushan, or Longevity

Mountain and the Yansai Lake. The First Pass under Heaven and Laolongtou should be where you start your visit.

Laolongtou is the eastern starting point of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) Great Wall. It extends about 20 meters into the Bohai Sea like a dragon drinking water, hence its name.

The First Pass under Heaven is actually the east tower of the Shanhaiguan Pass, called Zhendong Tower. Climbing up the tower, visitors can see how one side rolls into the sea and the other attaches to the Great Wall. The Jingbian Tower, Linlu Tower, Muying Tower and Wei Yuantang Hall stand on the same axis with the Zhendong Tower. Depending on conditions, the five buildings provided a strong protective screen.

Its freeze-free port, historical town of Shanghaiguan and summer resort Beidaihe have made Qinhuangdao one of the best-known coastal cities of north China. Today, the city is trying to upgrade its image to something "greener" as it prepares to host the Olympic soccer event at the Qinhuangdao Olympic Center Stadium next month.

The city, located at the eastern part of Hebei Province, is only 280 kilometers and 220 kilometers away from Beijing and Tianjin respectively, and is often called the "back garden" of these cities. Since it is an ideal domestic summer resort, a trip to Qinhuangdao during the Olympics would be a great idea.



## Beidaihe Seaside Resort

Beidaihe seaside resort, a water fairyland for children. CFP Photos

Beidaihe is a famous and scenic summer resort located at the southwest of Qinhuangdao. An alluring coastal village with a small-town ambiance, it provides a welcome break from city life. Its charm lies mostly in the lively inhabitants, bustling night stalls and seaside views. From long stretches of pebbled sand to small coves, it offers an easy escape for travelers.

Together with Shanhaiguan and the Old Dragon's Head, they were named in the "Top 40 Tourist Destinations of China." As a seaside resort, many political decisions affecting China are made here, making it the equivalent to resorts in Maine or Camp David in Maryland in the US.

The Yingjiao Stone in the east is

one of the most popular attractions of Beidaihe. It is a separate rock with the unique shape of an eagle perched upon it. Groups of wild doves once dwelled in the caves there, lending to its other name, the "Dove Nest." Yingjiao Pavilion is at the peak, where visitors can enjoy a powerful view of the ocean.

The long coastline to its south has soft sand and seawater of moderate salinity, making it an excellent place to sunbathe and swim. Many modern holiday villages and public baths were opened there. It is a good place to enjoy local snacks and delicious seafood, ride in a speedboat or go ballroom dancing. A stroll on the pebbled sand will bring travelers closer to nature.



Aside from sand-skating, visitors to the Gold Coast can also go yachting.

Continued on page 21 ...



... continued from page 20



### Sand-skating at Gold Coast

The Gold Coast, known as "the Eastern Hawaii" in Changli County, Qinhuangdao, has fine sand, a sprawling beach, clear water and the calm tides perfect for sand and grass skaters.

The first international Sand-skating Sports Center, Gold Coast International Sand Skiing Center, built during the 1980s, attracted a lot of people to the Gold Coast

who were interested in the new sport.

Tides and monsoon storms have created an unusually large sand dune at the site. Its height varies from 30 to 40 meters, and its crescent-shaped sand hills are gentle, smooth and beautiful.

Yachts which can reach up to 60 kilometers per hour are available for tourist rental.



### Paradise for bird watchers

Beidaihe is a prime destination for bird watchers. Flocks of birds migrate throughout the winter and spring months. Multitudes of birds arrive in Qinhuangdao in the early days of September and can be observed in the city and from its coastal wetlands.

Beidaihe was internationally recognized as a birding heaven in 1999, during which the Sky and Ocean International Bird Watching Race was held there. A Birding Race is held each May in Beidaihe, and the event attracts many Chinese and foreign bird buffs.

As many as 9,000 species of birds are known to exist in the world, and 1,200 of them can be seen in China. A select 400 of those species pass through Beidaihe, including the rare Siberian crane, white stork and pied harrier. Bird watching spots in Beidaihe include Lianpeng Mountain, Yanghe frith, Jiaoshan and Happy Island.

The best time of year to see middle and small-size birds in Beidaihe is either early September or late August to September.



*Flocks of birds gather in Qinhuangdao in summer, which makes it a paradise for bird watchers.*  
CFP Photos



### Changli Dry Red Wine Festival

Most visitors come to Qinhuangdao during the summer months, and the city holds festivals and celebrations primarily geared to boosting the tourism industry. Celebrations are held at many of the popular scenic spots, and include the Great Wall Festival in Shanhaiguan, the Temple Fair in the Temple of Mengjiangnu and the Red Wine Festival in Changli County.

Changli is a beautiful coastal city known for Golden Beach, one of the eight most beautiful beaches in China, and is also known as the Dry Red Wine City.

The city is rich with grapes. Geographically, it lies on the same latitude as Bordeaux, the famous French grape producing area.

Many dry red wine groups are working together to turn wine culture into a tourist attraction. The annual tours, which include a visit to each company's cellar, draw in 300,000 domestic tourists annually.

Huaxia winery, Bodega Langes Winery and the Ten-mile Grape Corridor are all listed as industry and agriculture tour resorts.

The Annual China Qinhuangdao Changli International Wine Festival is the platform on which Changli dry red wines are popularized. The festival has been held the last six years in Chengdu, as well as in some other big cities.



### Tips:

1. Qinhuangdao has good transportation options. The Beijing-Qinhuangdao expressway shortens the trip to Beijing to only two hours. Shanhaiguan Airport has flights to Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai and some other big cities. Passenger ship liners are in service from Qinhuangdao to Dalian, Yantai and Incheon of Korea.

2. Located adjacent to Bohai Bay, Qinhuangdao offers many local products and specialties that come straight from the sea. Shell carvings are the most popular handicraft and tourist souvenirs in Qinhuangdao. The city teems with pearls as well. In craft shops, portieres, necklaces, pendants and other kinds of ornaments made of pearls are beautiful and attractive.

3. Yingjiao Pavilion at the Dove Nest Park in Beidaihe is a famous spot to watch the sun rise. The best time for sunrise in July is about 5:30 am. In August, the time shifts to 6 am.

4. Biluo Tower Park is where the city's night life is. The park was appointed as the Whiffing Base at Sea, Diving Base at Sea and Beach Needfire Evening Base by the Beidaihe Tourism Bureau. It organizes various activities such as a needfire evening, beer salon and whiffing.

(By Zhang Dongya)



# Netiquette:

## Business etiquette gets technical



**ClarkMorgan Corporate Training**

www.clarkmorgan.com admin@clarkmorgan.com 800 820 5501

Beijing Chengdu Dalian Guangzhou Hefei Nanjing Qingdao Shanghai Shenzhen Suzhou Wuhan

By Ellen Orlando

You only get once chance to make a first impression. How many times have you heard this line? Too many to count. Proper business etiquette ensures that the first impression is the best it can be from top to bottom. However, how many times do you really get to make that first impression in person?

Think of how many emails you have sent today. How many of those emails were sent to people you have met face to face, or with whom you have a close personal relationship? For most people, 50 percent of their online communication is with people they have not met face-to-face. Often it is an email, a profile on a Web page, or an instant message that is the first communication with a new contact and it takes away that chance to dazzle someone with your new suit and winning smile.

This is where "netiquette" comes in handy. Internet + etiquette = netiquette, business etiquette for online communica-

tion is the latest development in international business etiquette. With the speed and convenience of online communication, we often forget that our communication is an extension of ourselves in person or through a computer. This leads to short, often rude emails or instant messages that break down rapport and good will instead of building it.

In fact, in a recent online survey about wireless communication and hand-held devices, 18 percent of the 1,000 polled said they had been reprimanded for bad manners in their communication. In an article from postbulletin.com, Tom Musbach of Yahoo! HotJobs said that "the ease of online communication has made bad online etiquette as commonplace as improper table manners. We have lost the humanity in our communication."

The number one rule of netiquette is "remember the person." Even though you're staring at a computer, there is always a person on the other end receiving and forming opinions based on those

communications long before you get the chance to meet in person.

The following tips can turn your online communication into the equivalent of your best-dressed and best-presented self – allowing you to make a lasting impression, no matter what the circumstances.

- For emails, remember to include some small piece of good will when appropriate. For example, wishing someone a happy birthday.
- Always include a subject message on all outgoing emails.
- When sending large attachments always ask yourself if it is necessary to send them through email. If it is, then be sure to compress files and alert the recipient before sending.
- When communicating with colleagues through instant message software such as Microsoft Messenger, Skype and Tencent QQ, introduce yourself, asking for the person's time and keeping your communication short and simple, will ensure the best possible use of time for all involved.



Ellen Orlando Cooperate Trainer

- Personal icons on instant message software should be kept tasteful. A neutral picture of a place, vacation or professional picture of yourself is good.
- Emoticons should be used sparingly and never animated.
- Blogs, social networking sites and picture-sharing Web sites are useful and fun tools for online communication, but these can also lead to invasions of privacy and damage to not only personal, but also company reputations. Use privacy settings to your advantage and only share information with which you are comfortable.

## Spa

### Olympic Vitalizer at Anantara Spa

Anantara Spa by the Great Wall provides a specially-designed package, "Olympic Vitalizer" during the Olympics from August to September.

The package features an invigorating coffee energizer. The mix of freshly-ground coffee beans and volcanic pumice powder sloughs off dry skin and arouses the senses. It is followed by a system-boosting 90-minute sports massage. This firm massage utilizes the essential oils of mandarin, ginger and clove to stimulate circulation while your therapist works on sore, tight muscles.

**Where:** Anantara Spa at Commune by the Great Wall Kempinski, at Shuiguan of the Great Wall Exit, Badaling Highway

**Cost:** 1,150 yuan (subjected to a 15-percent service charge)

**Tel:** 81181888 ext.5100, 5101



## Dining

### Mid-summer night's dream in Agrilandia Italian Farm

Agrilandia offers a chance for you to realize this mid-summer night's dream on its farm. In Agrilandia, an Italian style BBQ, movie, and lucky draw are all waiting for you.

**Where:** Agrilandia Italian

Farm, Baigezhuang, Mapo Town, Shunyi

**When:** Sat 6 pm, until September

**Cost:** 200 yuan (adult), 120 yuan (children under 12)

**Tel:** 6940 7650

(By Li Jing)

## Pangu 7 Star is set to open

Located at the new axis of the city, Pangu 7 Star is situated 100 meters from the Beijing Olympic Park. It has 234 spacious guestrooms, including 140 suites, from 45 square meters to 488 square meters in size.

The Happiness Lounge provides stunning views of the Olympic Park and beyond. The Auspicious Garden

## Hotel

Restaurant and the Karma Lounge offer food and drinks all day long. One ballroom and three function rooms accommodate a full range of meetings, incentives, conventions and events.

**Where:** Beijing Pangu Plaza, 27 Central North 4th Ring, Chaoyang

**Tel:** 6487 7777

## Aviation

### Online Check-In on SriLankan Flights in Beijing

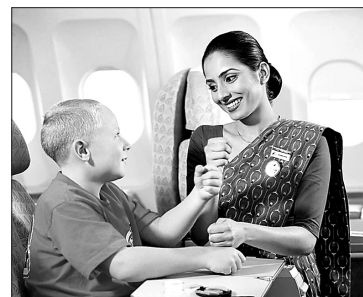
SriLankan Airlines passengers no longer need to queue up to check-in, with the launch of the airline's online check-in facility in Beijing on August 1.

Passengers from Beijing will have the convenience of choosing their own seat on the aircraft, through the online system which considerably reduces the time spent at the check-in area.

Online Check-In opens 24 hours before a flight and continues up to two hours before a flight. One can even check in groups of passengers, if the required information and reference numbers are available.

A passenger simply needs to visit SriLankan's Web site at srilankan.aero and click on "Online Check-In." The next step is to merely key in four

simple entries – name, airport, flight number and booking reference number. The system will automatically assign a seat, which the passenger can change through a user-friendly chart that shows the aircraft's seating plan, identifying reserved seats in a different color.



If you have any info for this page, please send it to lixiaojing@ynet.com



# Where east and west collide

By Jackie Zhang

Located on the corner of the Fourth Ring Road and the Capital Airport Expressway, the area surrounding the Lido Hotel is an entertainment and communication base for both Asians and Westerners.

Since it is not far from the Wangjing area, a popular gathering place for South Koreans, many South Koreans come to have dinner, party or meet friends. Restaurants and bakeries that serve the South Korean style and taste can be seen everywhere.

It is also easy to locate clubs and restaurants for a drink or "typical" Western food. The difficulty may be in deciding which restaurant to choose, since there are so many choices.

Many restaurants and clubs in the area will organize small or medium-sized parties. Whether it is for a private meet up at a Western-style restaurant or a romantic wedding ceremony on the grass, the area has something for everyone.

Lido menus offer traditional Western food and typical Chinese dishes.

For some exercise or a massage, you can go to Lido hotel, which offers fitness and massage clubs.



Dinning environment in Wish



Shuizhuyu (water-boiled fish fillets) served with mushroom.

Photos by RACHELUNI

## Wishing you a happy meal

By Jackie Zhang

Wish Restaurant Lounge, known as Wutong in Chinese, is a quiet, romantic, crystal world. While it is technically a Chinese restaurant, the dishes are served in Western style.

The two-story glass restaurant is located in Lido Park. Its outdoor tables are surrounded by tall trees and green grass.

In all the four seasons, Wish is a nice place to meet friends or take lovers on a date. In spring, diners can watch the first buds pop and the trees and grass turn green. In rainy summer, the restaurant offers a window into the city. The fall colors are marvelous from the restau-

rant's outdoor tables. In winter, the glass house offers a warm retreat from the wintry world.

All the dishes in the menu are described in poetic verse. The Healthy Walnut Meat is made from walnut, apple and cherry. The Hot and Sour Soup is quite different from what is found in other restaurants. The soup is free of vinegar, instead taking its sourness from fresh lemon juice. It is slightly yellow and has a fresh taste.

**Wish Restaurant Lounge**  
Where: 6, Fangyuan Xi Lu, Chaoyang  
Open: 11:30 am – midnight  
Tel: 6438 1118, 6438 8883



Il Casale

## Find traditional Italian treats in Il Casale

By Li Jing

Il Casale's reputation has brought in reporters and food critics from around the globe.

The restaurant is in a two-story building with a small yard in the front. The main dining area has wooden tables and a vaulted ceiling. A working fireplace is on the second floor, adding warmth to the restaurant interior during the frosty winter.

Leandro Carrega, the director of food and beverages, said that though there are great differences between Chinese and Italian cuisine, he is reluctant to adjust his Italian dishes to mirror Chinese styles. He said his dishes are made the same as they are in Italy.

The Seasonal Fresh Green

Garden Salad is made from fresh vegetables and fruits with Italian vinegar squeezed from grapes. The Grilled Local Beef Tenderloin with Fresh Garden Salad for is popular with local Italian customers.

Carrega created 60 percent of the dishes on the menu, meaning they are found exclusively at Il Casale and its twin restaurant Agri-landia Italian Farm.

Besides creative dishes, the restaurant offers a variety of authentic Italian appetizers, salads, pastas, sauces and steaks.

**Il Casale Italian Restaurant**  
Where: Jiangtai Xilu, Chaoyang (In front of Japanese School)  
Open: 11:30 am – 2:30 pm  
5:30 pm – 11 pm  
Tel: 6436 8778



Coups Bakery & Cafe  
Photos by Zhang Nan

## Savory love affair with Korean bread

By Jackie Zhang

Falling in love with the cakes and breads at Coups is a sure-fire way to gain weight, but once inside the bakery, it is impossible to eat just one.

Coups Bakery & Cafe's manager and all its bakers are from South Korea. Its breads, cakes and snacks are prepared from high-quality, costly ingredients in a strictly Korean fashion.

"I couldn't have imagined a bakery having such high production costs before I came to work here," Cai Lina said. "When I prepared the first month's financial report, I found that the bakery spent a lot of money on materials and production."

Cai said the first bread she ate in Coups was the Tuna French. Before her first visit, she read comments online and found that almost everyone recommended it.

"I bought one and found that there was really at least half [a tin of] a tuna inside the bread. The posters didn't lie. I thought the baker had put a whole tin of tuna inside."

Coups offers many other bread flavors. "Seventy percent of the customers are foreigners. All of them can find at least one kind of bread they like," Kim Soung Ho, vice president of Coups, said.

The cafe provides some simple dishes like spaghetti, salad, soups and pizza. Various coffee, ice-cream, cookies, tea and cakes are also available. Wireless Internet service is available on the second floor.

**Coups Bakery & Cafe**  
Where: Block 3, Hairun International Condominium, Chaoyang District  
Open: 6:30 am – 11 pm  
Tel: 5135 8024

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## Chinese food

**Damingtang Chinese Restaurant**  
Where: 6, Fangyuan Xi Lu, north gate of Lido Park, behind the Rosedale Hotel  
Open: 11 am – 2 am next day  
Tel: 6431 4254, 6434 4748

**Le Pot-au-Feu**  
Where: Beside north gate of Side Park  
Open: 10 am – 11 pm  
Tel: 6438 8889

**19 Wish Restaurant Lounge**  
Where: 6, Fangyuan Xi Lu, Chaoyang  
Open: 11:30 am – midnight  
Tel: 6438 1118, 6438 8883

## South Korean food

**Blue Lake Restaurant**  
Where: 6, Fangyuan Xi Lu, inside Lido Park, behind the Rosedale Hotel  
Open: 11 am – midnight  
Tel: 6438 0881/0877  
**Pine Hill Korean Cuisine**  
Where: Beside north gate of Side Park, next to Le Pot-au-Feu, Jiangtai Xi Lu, Chaoyang  
Open: 10 am – 11 pm

Tel: 6437 5710  
**Huachunwu Korean Restaurant**  
Where: 2a, Jiangtai Lu  
Open: 9:30 am – 9:30 pm  
Tel: 6435 4948, 6435 4950

## Western food

**Eudora Station**  
Where: 6, Fangyuan Xi Lu  
Open: 10 am – 2 am next day  
Tel: 6437 8813  
**Frank's Place**  
Where: Between Il casale Italian Restaurant and Le-Pot-au-Feu, at the end of Jiangtai Xi Lu  
Open: 10 am – 2 am next day  
Tel: 6437 8399  
**Il casale Italian Restaurant**  
Where: At the end of Jiangtai Xi Lu, next to 3E International Kindergarten  
Open: 11:30 am – 2:30 pm, 5:30 pm – 11 pm  
Tel: 6436 8778  
**Comptoir de France Bakery**  
Where: Shop 9, No 2b, Hairun International Condominium, Jiangtai Lu  
Open: 7 am – 10 pm  
Tel: 5135 7329  
**Tex-Mex Grill**  
Where: Shop 2, No 2b, Hairun Interna-

tional Condominium, Jiangtai Lu  
Open: 7:30 am – 11:30 pm  
Tel: 5135 8187

## Indian food

**Ganges Indian Restaurant**  
Where: Shop 5, No 2b, Hairun International Condominium, Jiangtai Lu  
Open: 11 am – 11 pm  
Tel: 5135 8353

## Bakery and club

**Cafe del mar Club**  
Where: Shop 7, No 2b, Hairun International Condominium, Jiangtai Lu  
Open: 9 am – 3 am next day  
Tel: 5135 7028  
**Coups Bakery & Cafe**  
Where: Shop 3, No 2b, Hairun International Condominium, Jiangtai Lu  
Open: 6:30 am – 11 pm  
Tel: 6471 4833

## Hotels

**Lido Hotel**  
Where: Jiangtai Lu  
Tel: 6437 6688

**Rosedale Hotel**  
Where: No 8, Jiangtai Xi Lu  
Tel: 5960 2288  
**Yanxiang Hotel**  
Where: Jiangtai Lu, opposite the Lido Hotel  
Tel: 5138 9988

## Cafe

**Sculpting in Time**  
Where: Shop 3a, No 2b,  
Open: 8 am – midnight  
Tel: 5135 8108

## Supermarket

**Jenny Lou's Super Market**  
Where: Shop 8b, Hairun International Condominium, Jiangtai Lu  
Open: 8 am – midnight  
Tel: 5135 8338

## Kindergarten

**3E International Kindergarten**  
Where: 9-1, Side Park, Jiangtai Xi Lu  
Tel: 6437 3344

(By Jackie Zhang)